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#55

Popeye®

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THIMBLE THEATRE PRESENTS...

POPEYE

THE SAILOR MEETS THE

MISERMITES

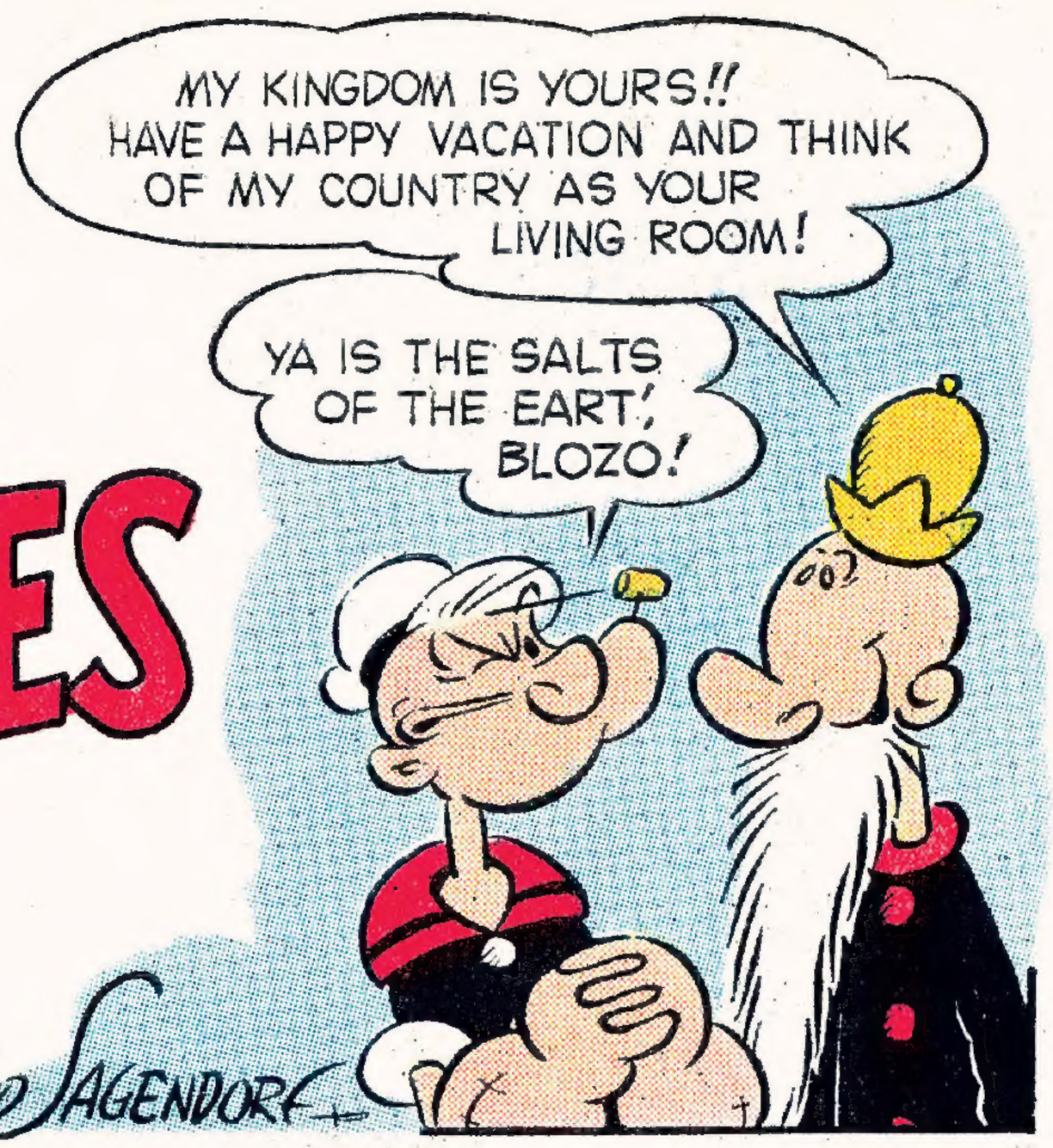
OR

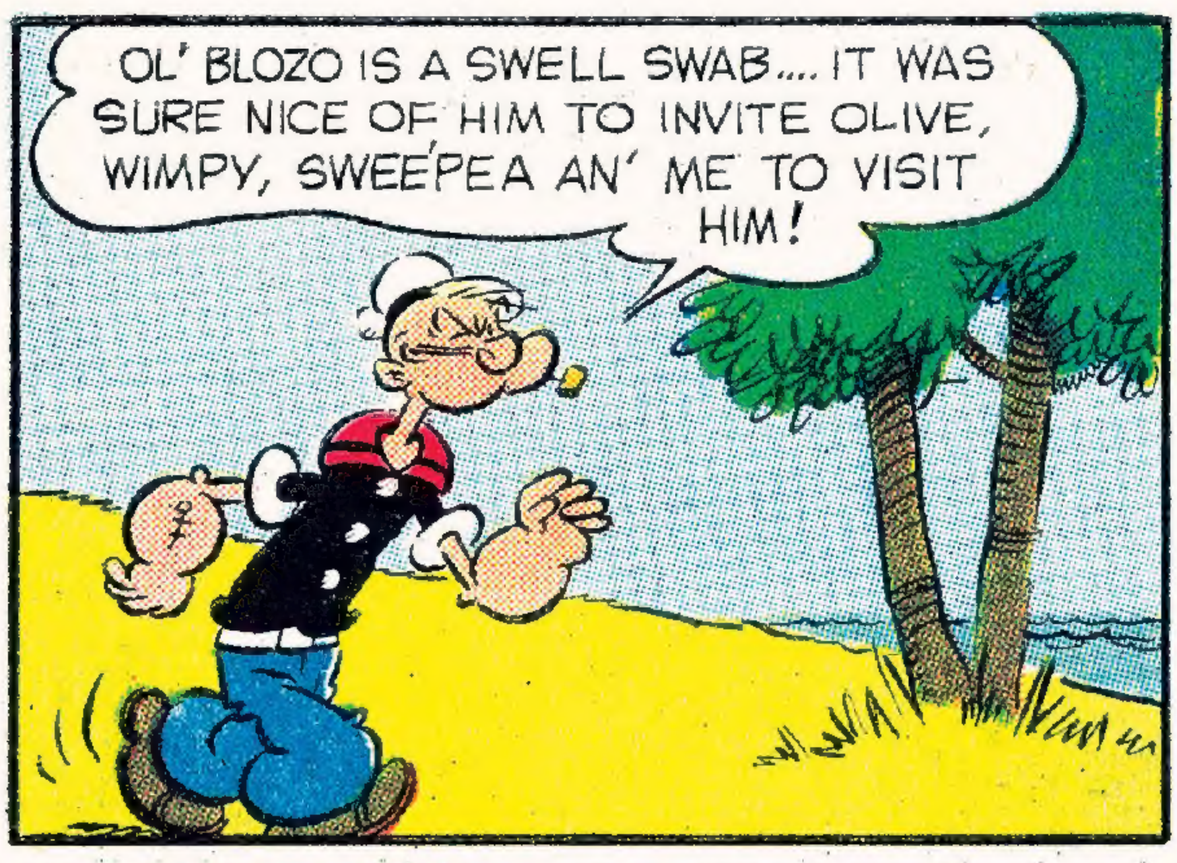
"NAIL IT DOWN QUICK!!"

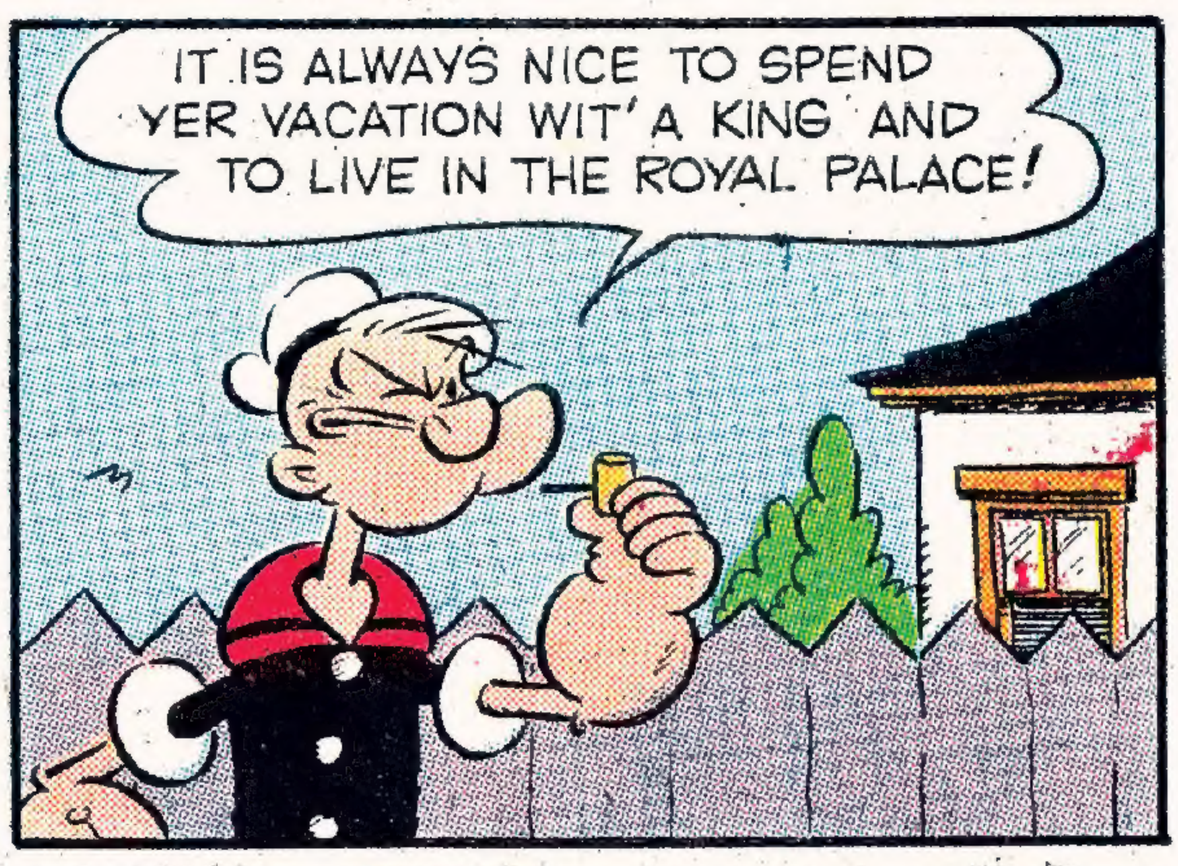
OR

"THE MISERMITE INVASION!!"

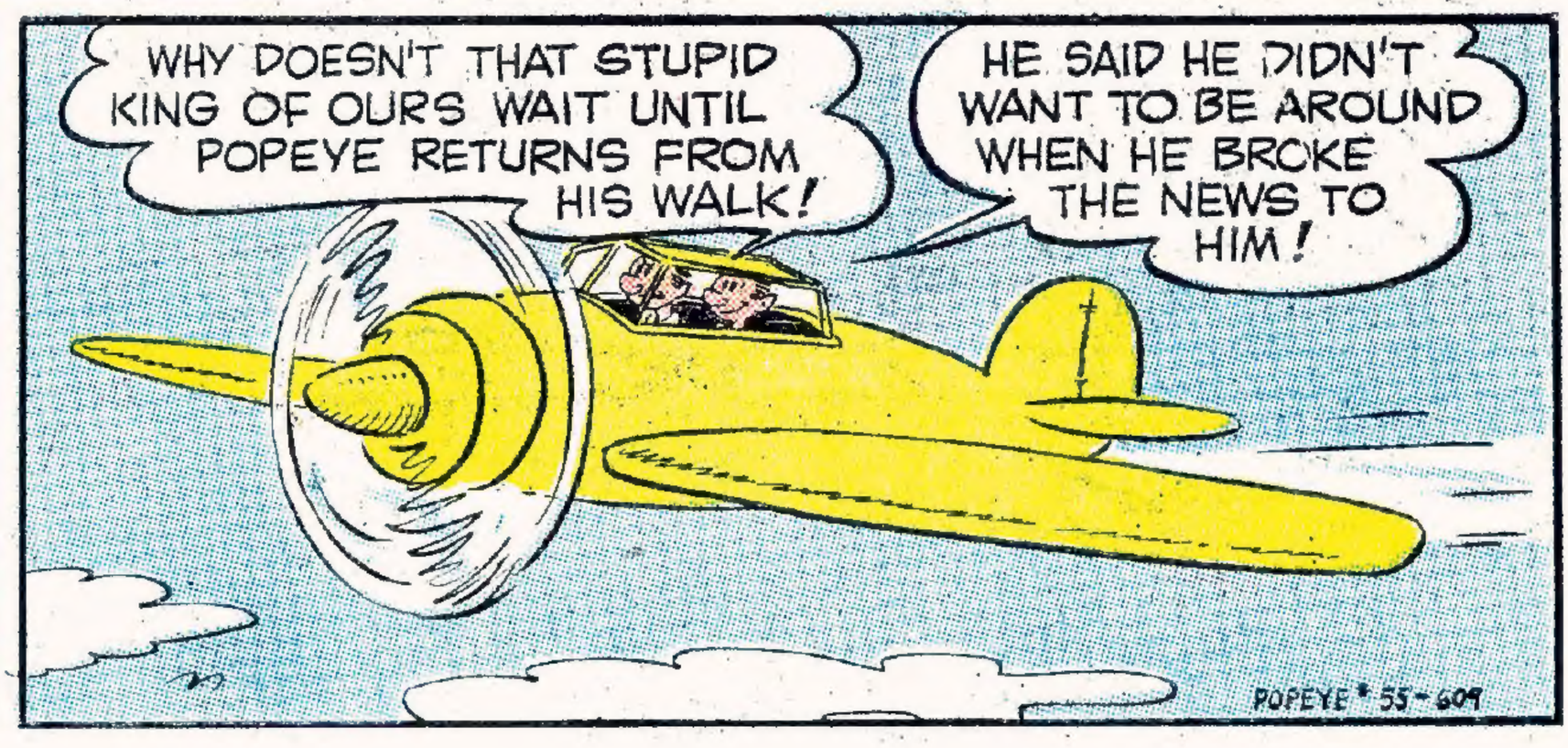
By BUD SAGENDORF







WHILE POPEYE IS STROLLING AROUND THE ISLAND KINGDOM OF SPINACHOVIA A SMALL PLANE IS SEARCHING FOR HIM!


WHY DOESN'T THAT STUPID KING OF OURS WAIT UNTIL POPEYE RETURNS FROM HIS WALK!
HE SAID HE DIDN'T WANT TO BE AROUND WHEN HE BROKE THE NEWS TO HIM!
POPEYE * 55 - 609

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THERE HE IS DOWN THERE!

OKAY, START YOUR DIVE!

BLOW ME DOWN!?! 'AT AIRYPLANE IS DIVIN' RIGHT AT ME!!

ARF! ARF! 'EM SWABS THINKS I YAM A SISSY AN' THEY IS TRYIN' TO SCARE ME!

?

!

?

WHA-TH..??

THEY DROPPED SUMPIN'!

?

SPLAT!

I HAS BEEN BOMBED!

IT IS A BLASTID ROCK WIT' A NOTE TIED TO IT!

?

?

?

?

IT IS A MESSAGE FROM KING BLOZO!?!

NEXT TUESDAY IS MARCH 22ND

BLOZO!

BLASTID CHEAP MONARCH... I WISH HE'D STOP USING THE ROYAL AIR FORCE TO DELIVER MESSAGES!

NEXT TUESDAY IS MARCH 22 BLOZO!

AHOY, POPEYE...IS YA OKAY.... I SAW WHAT THAT AIRYPLANE DID TO YA!!

I YAM OKAY, SWEE'PEA!

DOES YOU KNOW WHAT MARCH 22 IS?

YEAH, IT IS THE SECOND DAY OF SPRING!

BLOW ME DOWN!?! WHY WOULD OL' BLOZO WANT ME TO KNOW THAT THE SECOND DAY OF SPRING IS COMIN'?

?

?

?

HERE COMES MISTER WIMPY...PERHAPS HE KIN TELL YA!!

AHOY, WIMPY.... DOES YOU KNOW THAT NEXT TUESDAY IS MARCH 22....THE SECOND DAY OF SPRING?

?

GULP

WHA' TH'?

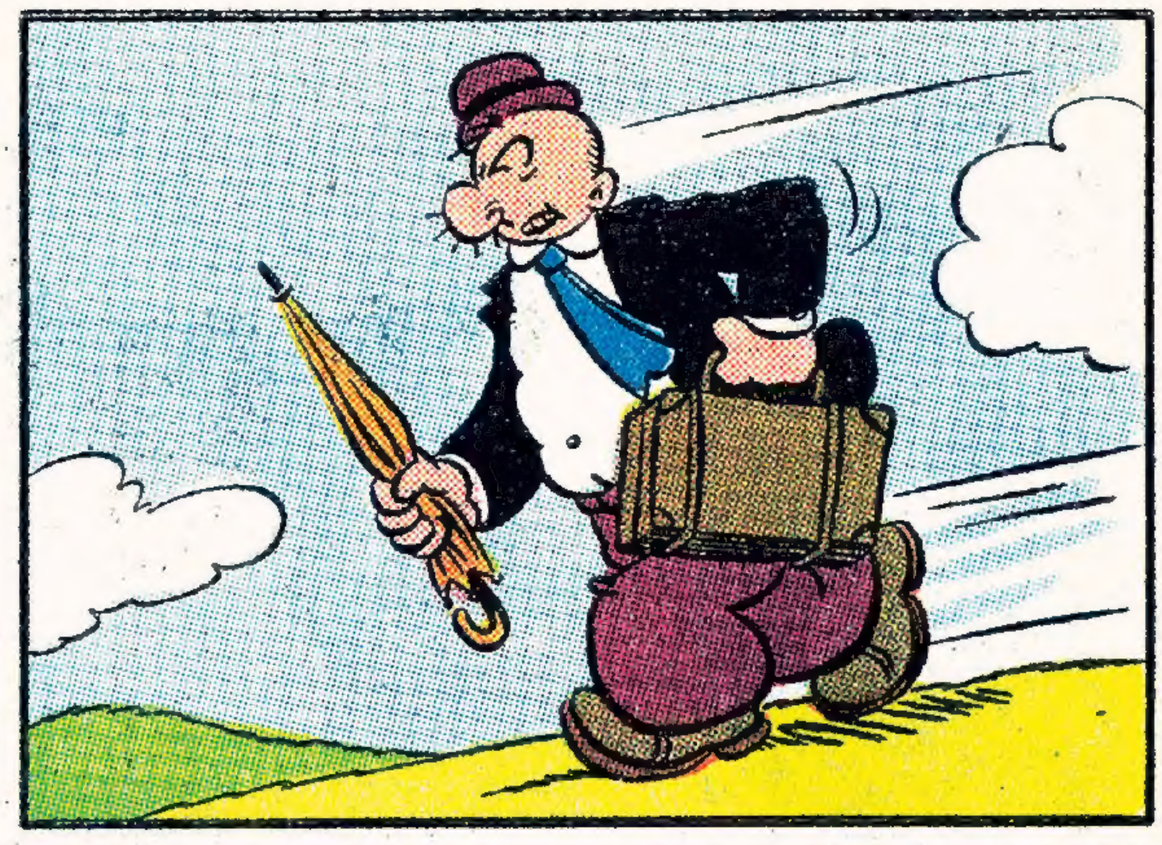
?

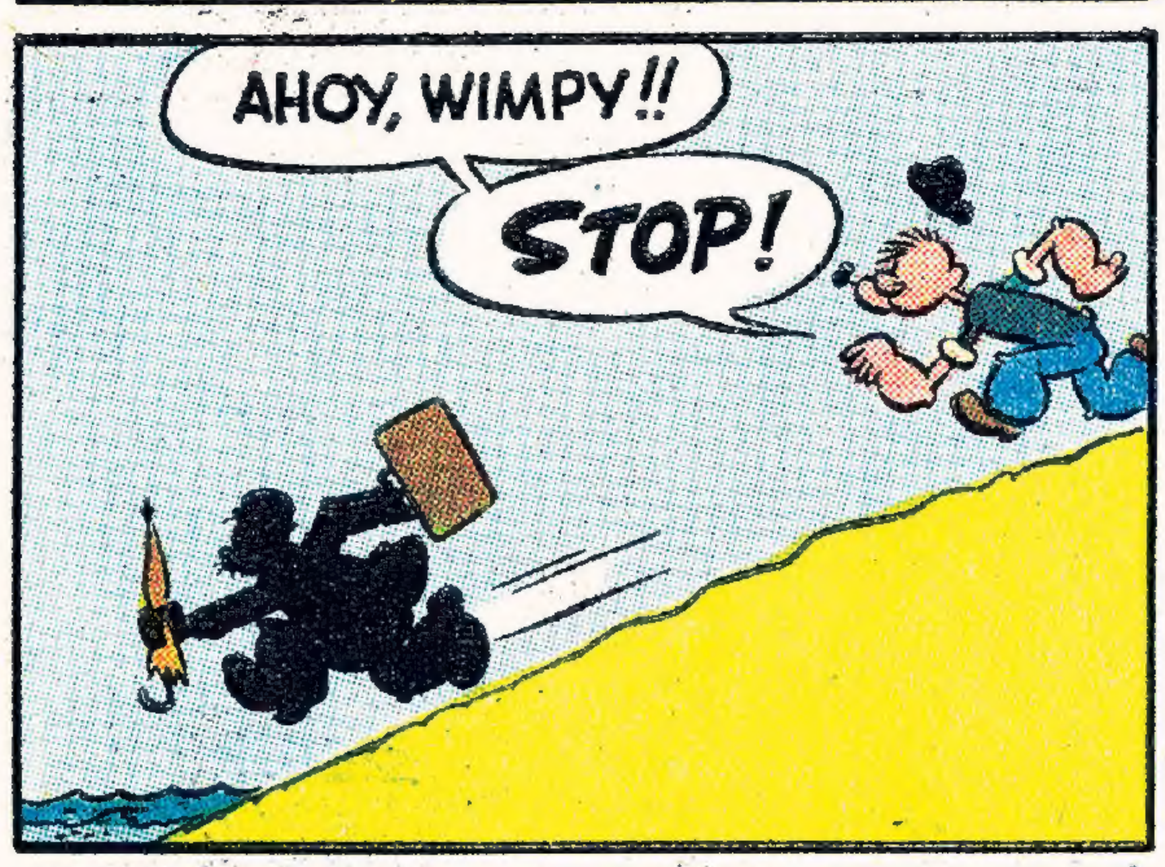
I GUESS HE KNOWS SUMPIN' WE DOESN'T KNOW!

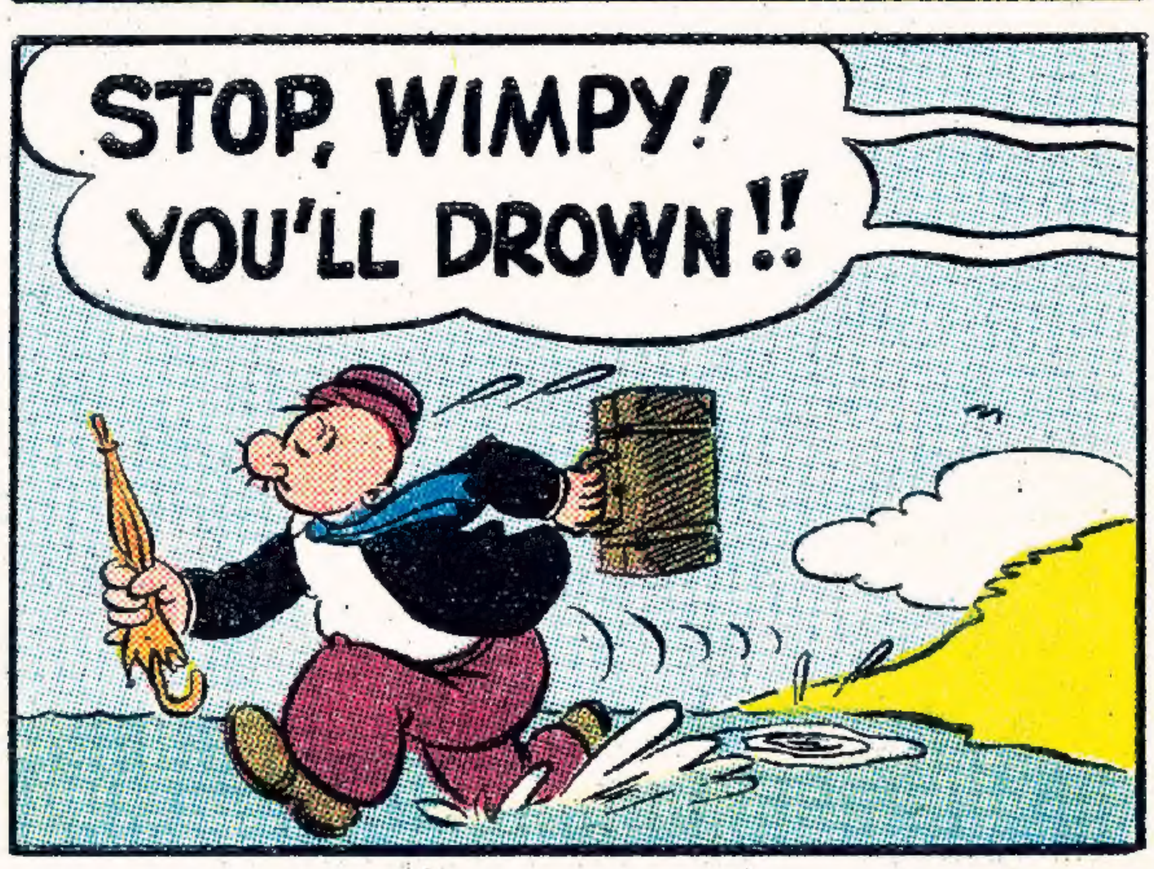
MARCH 22.... GULP!

PARDON ME... THERE'S NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE!

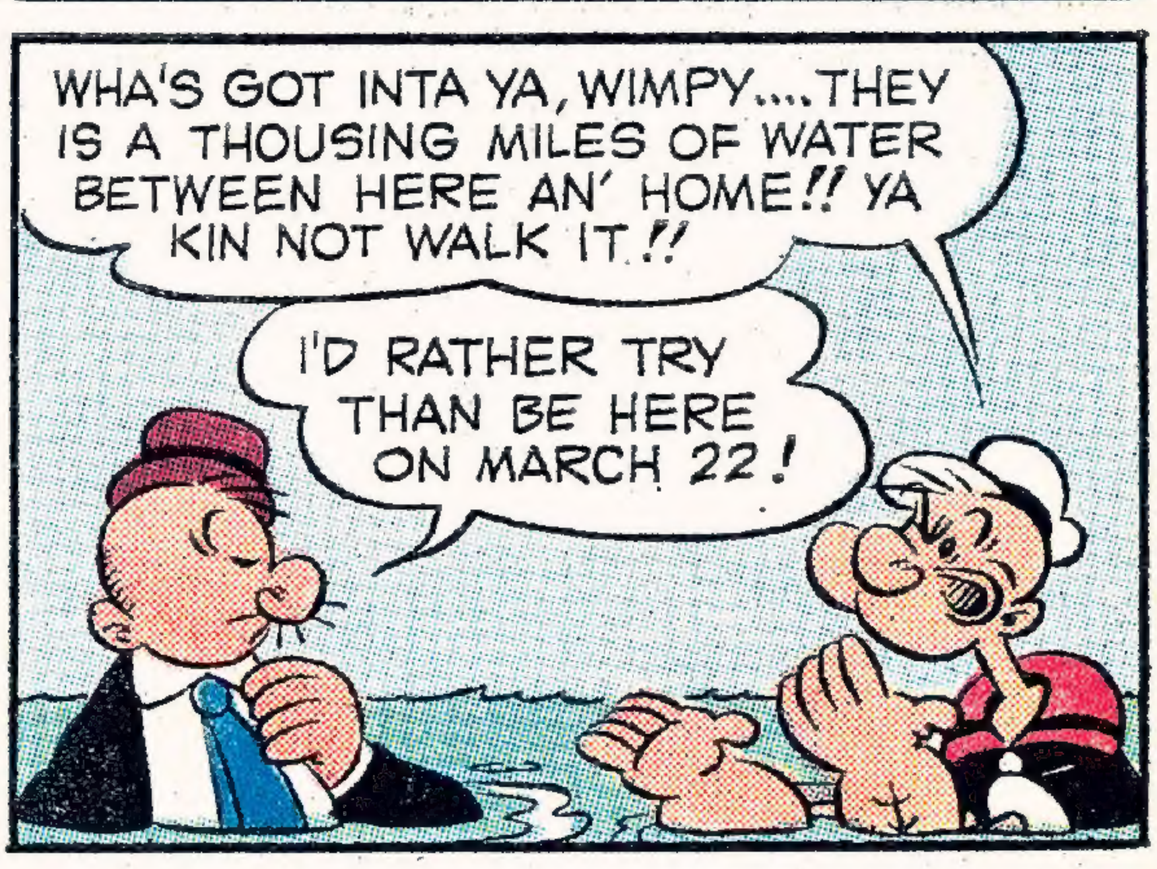
HERE COMES WIMPY BACK!

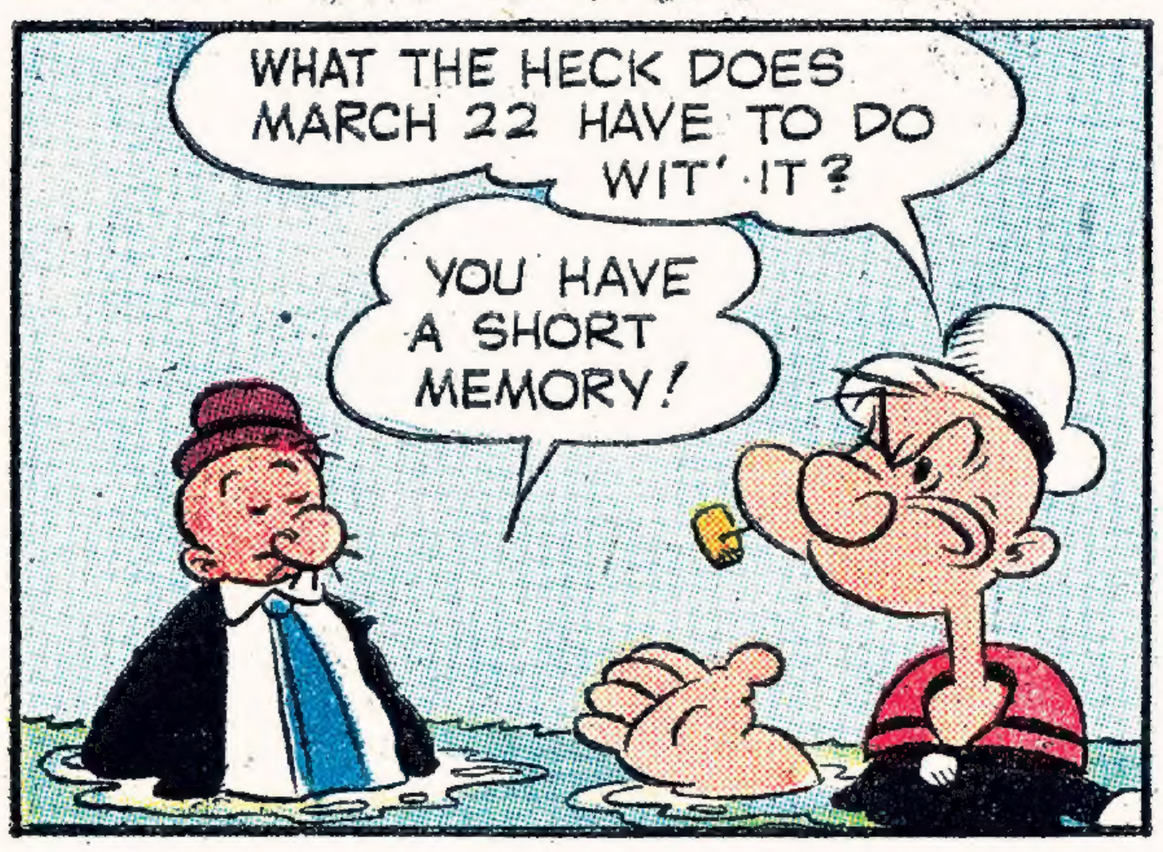



AHOY, WIMPY!!
STOP!


STOP, WIMPY! YOU'LL DROWN!!

DON'T TRY TO STOP ME, SIR....
I AM GOING HOME!!


WHA'S GOT INTA YA, WIMPY....THEY IS A THOUSING MILES OF WATER BETWEEN HERE AN' HOME!! YA KIN NOT WALK IT!!
I'D RATHER TRY THAN BE HERE ON MARCH 22!


WHAT THE HECK DOES MARCH 22 HAVE TO DO WIT' IT?
YOU HAVE A SHORT MEMORY!

MARCH 22ND IS THE SECOND DAY OF SPRING AND MEANS THE COMING OF THE MISERMITES!!
YIKE!
OH, MY GORSH!!

SO THAT'S WHY BLOZO INVITED US TO VISIK HIM!!

HE THINKS I'LL HELP HIM PROTECT HIS COUNTRY FROM THE ANNUAL INVASION OF MISERMITES!

EVERY YEAR THEM LI'L SWABS COME OVER HERE FROM THEIR ISLAND TO REPLENISH THEIR SUPPLIES!

THEY IS THE WORSE THIEVES IN A WORLD... THEY CAN STRIP A WHOLE CITY IN A HALF-HOUR!

THEY IS SO SMALL AN' NASTY THAT THEY IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO FIGHT!

WHEN YA SLAPS ONE DOWN, A THOUSING MORE JUMP ON YA!

YE ROYAL PALACE

AHOY, YA BLASTID SNEAKY MONARCH, WE IS GOIN' HOME!

?

?

?

YA GOT US HERE UNDER FALSE PRETENSERS!! YA JUST WANTED TO GET SOME FREE PROTECTION!

HM?

WA-A-A-A!! YOU HATE ME! YOU DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO MY MISERABLE COUNTRY!

?

STOP CRYIN', BLOZO....YA IS TRYIN' TO WORK ON ME SYMPTITHYS!

GO ON! GO HOME!! LEAVE A DEAR FRIEND IN TROUBLE!!

SNIFF

YOU WOULDN'T BE SO CRUEL TO ME IF YOU KNEW WHAT HAPPENED LAST YEAR!!

WAS LAST YEAR A BAD MISERMITE YEAR??

BAD!? WOW! LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT IT!!

THEY LANDED THE MORNING OF MARCH TWENTY-SECOND.....

?

IN MINUTES THEY HAD WIPED OUT THE WATERFRONT...NOTHING WAS SAFE....

ROYAL PALACE
VISITORS WELCOME

BY NOON THEY HAD STRIPPED THE TOWN AND WERE MOVING ON MY PALACE....

?

?

I WAS TAKING A NAP AND THEY ALMOST TOOK ME WITH MY BED!

MY GORSH !?! WHERE WAS YER ARMY?

ARMY?! BAH!

GR-R-R-R!!

WHEN THE ALARM SOUNDED, MY BRAVE ARMY CHARGED....

GR-R-R!

THEY MET THE MISERMITES IN AN OPEN FIELD IN FRONT OF THE PALACE...

CRASH! BAM WHACK POW SLAP SMACK

THE BATTLE LASTED TEN MINUTES.... IT WAS TERRIBLE....

HELP! SAVE US, BLOZO!! WE'VE BEEN MISERMITED!!

MY ARMY WAS ROUTED....THE MISERMITES STRIPPED THEM OF EVERYTHING....

ARF! ARF! BOY!! 'AT MUST HAVE BEEN A SIGHT!

WHEEEEE!!

IT WASN'T FUNNY!!

I YAM SORRY, BLOZO....

PHOOEY TO YOU!!

NOW YOU'VE DONE IT... YOU'VE MADE HIM MAD AND HURT HIS FEELINGS!

I YAM SORRY, OLIVE... I GUESS I **WAS** KINDA ROUGH ON HIM!

HE'S BEEN A GOOD FRIEND AND YOU SHOULD HELP HIM!

YER RIGHT, OLIVE .... HE JUS' MADE ME MAD BY TRYIN' TO TRICK ME!

AHOY, BLOZO... I YAM SORRY I LAUGHED... I WILL HELP YA FIGHT THE MISERMITES!!

OH, THANK YOU, POPEYE... I KNEW I COULD COUNT ON YOU!

I'LL TELL MY PEOPLE TO STOP WORRYING!

HE HAS TOLD EVERYONE NOT TO WORRY!

HE HAS GREAT FAITH IN YOU!

YEAH!

OH, IT'S WONDERFUL!!! MY PEOPLE ARE SO HAPPY! THEY HAVEN'T GOT A WORRY!

WORRY!

WORRY!

WORRY!

WORRY!

WORRY!

WHY SHOULD THEY...YOU GAVE IT ALL TO POPEYE!

?

?

?

?

I HASTA FIGURE OUT SOME WAY TO LICK 'EM LI'L MONSKERS!

WORRY!

WORRY!

EVEN WITH SPINACH I CAN'T FIGHT 'EM ALL!!

WORRY!

WORRY!

POPEYE, CAN I TALK TO YA?

LEAVE ME ALONE, SWEE'PEA.... I YAM THINKIN'!

I THINK I KNOWS HOW TO LICK THE MISERMITES!

HUH?

?

?

THEY STEAL EVERYTHING THAT IS LOOSE, SO WHY NOT NAIL AND GLUE EVERYTHING DOWN?

'AT'S A WUNNERFUL IDEA... I THINKS IT WILL WORK!

BLOZO, CALL OUT THE ROYAL GLUE POTS AND CALL UP THE SPINACHOVIAN CARPENTERS!!

ROYAL THRONE ROOM

BANG

MOTHER

GLUE

GLUE

THEY IS DOIN' A GOOD JOB!

THEY CAN WORK FAST WHEN THEY HAVE TO!!

WHAT THE...?

?

?

SPLAT

SPLAT

GLUE

ARF!!

ARF!

PLOP

THAT WAS THE LAST LOOSE OBJECT, YER MAJESTY!

WE'RE READY FOR THEM, POPEYE....LET THE MISERMITES COME!

HOORAY! HOORAY!!

OH, HAPPY DAY!

HAPPY MARCH 22ND TO SPINACHOVIA!

AND THEY ARE COMING BY THE THOUSANDS...

I THINK I'LL GO DOWN AND GREET THE LITTLE MONSTERS!

WELCOME TO SPINACHOVIA!

HUH!!

?

?

YOU KNOW WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR AND YOU WELCOME US?

?

OF COURSE!! WE HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM YOU!!

BUT WE'RE HERE TO STEAL!

YOU'RE WELCOME TO ANYTHING YOU CAN TAKE!!

HEH! HEH!

HE MUST BE NUTS!

WELL, LET'S GET TO WORK!!

-SO SCARED HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT HE'S SAYING!

TAKE THAT BARREL OVER THERE!

OKAY, CHIEF!

WHAT THE...? IT WON'T MOVE!

GR-R-R!

CHIEF, WE'RE IN TROUBLE... EVERYTHING IS GLUED OR NAILED DOWN!!

SO THAT'S WHY HE WASN'T AFRAID OF US!

HA! HA! HA!

WISE GUY!

WHAT'LL WE DO, CHIEF?

?

?

THERE'S ONE THING THAT ISN'T NAILED DOWN!

HA! HA! I GETCHA!

IN THE WHOLE HISTORY OF OUR RAIDS WE'VE NEVER LEFT A COUNTRY EMPTY-HANDED!

?

?

THE MISERMITES HAVE FAILED.... THEY'RE GOING HOME!

IT WAS A SWELL IDEA, SWEE'PEA!

BLOZO SHOULD BE VERY PLEASED AT THE WAY YOU HANDLED HIS PROBLEM!

I HOPES HE IS!

AHOY, OLIVE...THE INVASION IS OVER! WHERE IS BLOZO!?

THE MISERMITES COULDN'T STEAL ANY-THING SO THEY TOOK THE KING!

?

?

?

THIS IS TERRIBLE.... I TRIED TO HELP HIM AND I ONLY MADE THINGS **WORSE!**

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I'M GOING TO SAVE KING BLOZO!

THAT SMARTALECK SAILOR IS DOING JUST WHAT YOU WANTED HIM TO DO .... HE'S COMING TO SAVE THE KING!

GET THE TRAP SET UP!

WE WILL HAVE TO SNEAK IN AN' OUT WIT'OUT THEM KNOWIN' WE IS HERE!

?

?

?

THIS WAY TO KING BLOZO

SUMPIN' TELLS ME THIS IS TOO EASY!

BLOZO

HEROES THIS WAY

THIS WAY TO BLOZO

FOLLOW THE ARROW TO SAVE BLOZO!

BLOZO'S PRISON IS THIS WAY!

HERE HE COMES!

BOY IS HE STUPID!

YOO-HOO!! POPEYE!! I'M OVER HERE! SAVE ME!

YOU SOUND JUST LIKE HIM!

AHOY, BLOZO.... IS YA OKAY?

GET READY TO SHOVE IT DOWN...

BOOM

NOW!

BEAUTIFUL!!

IT WAS WELL TIMED, EVEN IF I SAY SO MYSELF!

THEM NASTY LI'L SWABS WALKED US RIGHT INTO A TRAP!

WA-AA!

BLOW ME DOWN, SWEE'PEA, IS YA HURTED?

NO!

THEN WHAT IS YA YELLIN' ABOUT?

THE EXPLOSION SCATTERED ME JELLY BEANS ALL OVER!

OH-OH --- WE IS STARTIN' DOWN!

I WANT SOME MORE JELLY BEANS!

I'LL BUY YA SOME WHEN WE GITS HOME!!

POW!

IS YA OKAY?

I YAM FINE... WHEN DOES I GET ME JELLY BEANS?

POPEYE, YOU WERE WONDERFUL!! HOW IN THE WORLD DID YOU EVER DREAM UP A SCHEME LIKE THAT?

NOT ONLY DID YOU SAVE ME BUT YOU FIXED THE MISERMITES SO THEY'LL BE TOO BUSY TO STEAL FOR YEARS!

HUH?

WHATCHA TALKIN' ABOUT?

?

?

?

YOU KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT! THE JELLY BEANS THAT SAVED ME!

WHAT ABOUT ME JELLY BEANS?

SPREADING THOSE JELLY BEANS OVER THE ISLAND WAS AN INSPIRATION.... THE MISERMITES LOVE THEM...THEY'RE RUNNING ALL OVER LOOKING FOR THEM!!

BLOW ME DOWN!

?

EACH TIME ONE OF THEM FINDS A JELLY BEAN, SIX OTHER MISERMITES START FIGURING OUT HOW TO GET IT!!

THEY'RE SO BUSY THEY'VE FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT US!

I STILL THINK YOU'RE A GENIUS FOR KNOWING THEIR ONE WEAKNESS!

YEAH! I GUESS I YAM SMARTER THAN I THOUGHT!!

?

GIMME BACK MY JELLY BEAN!

STOP THIEF!

HANDS UP!

SMACK!

THIEF! POW

POW!

SMACK!

BAM!

BUT, POPEYE.... YOU DIDN'T....

BUT I **DID**, SWEE'PEA..... **I** BOUGHT THE JELLY BEANS AND **I** BROUGHT YOU ALONG WITH 'EM!

I YAM WHAT I YAM... AN' TODAY I YAM A GENIUS!

POPEYE AN' SWEE'PEA IN BORED!

OR

"LI'L KIDS SHOULD BE KEPT BUSY!!"

OR

"DON'T LEAVE YER DUMBBELLS AROUN'!!"

I YAM BORED!

THEY MUST BE SOME WAY TO STIR UP SOME EXCITEMENT!!

ALL ME FRIEN'S IS AWAY AN' POPEYE DOESN'T HAVE TIME TO PLAY WIT' ME!

HONK!

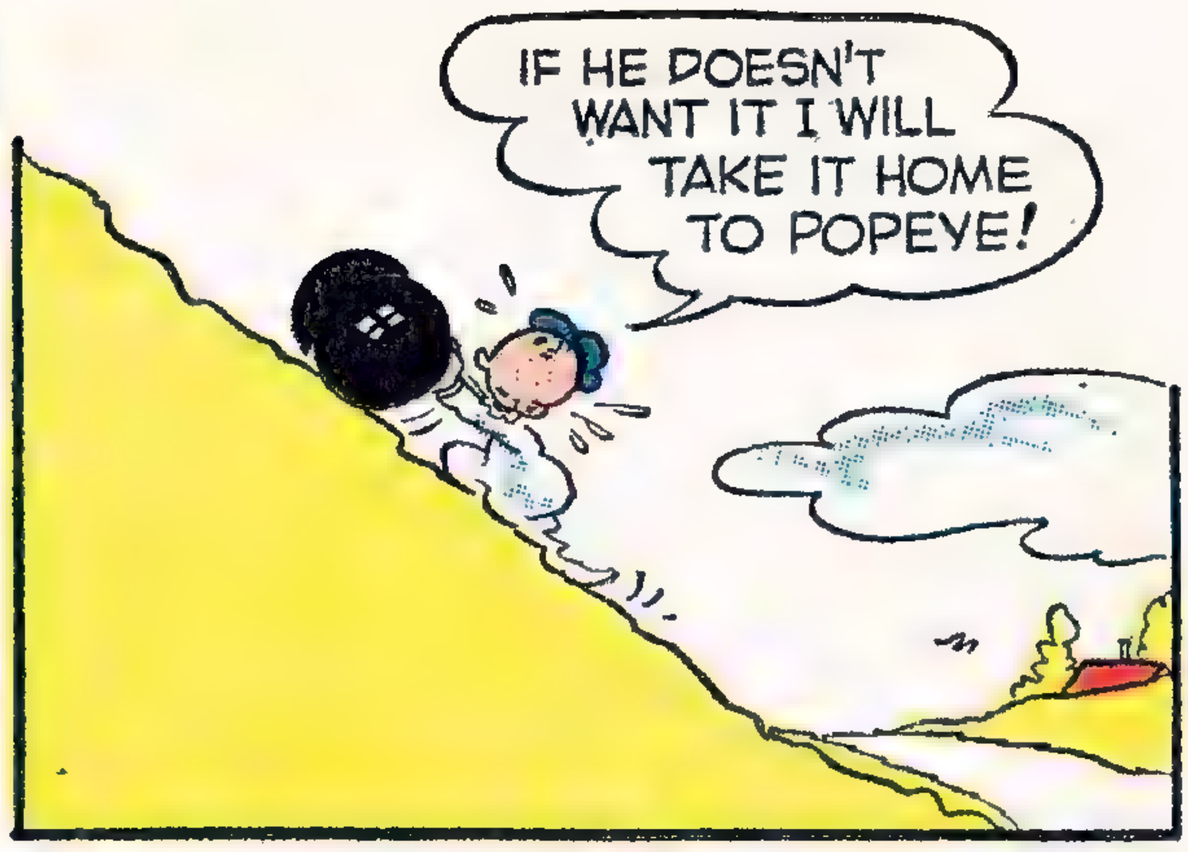
BIG TEX STRONG MAN

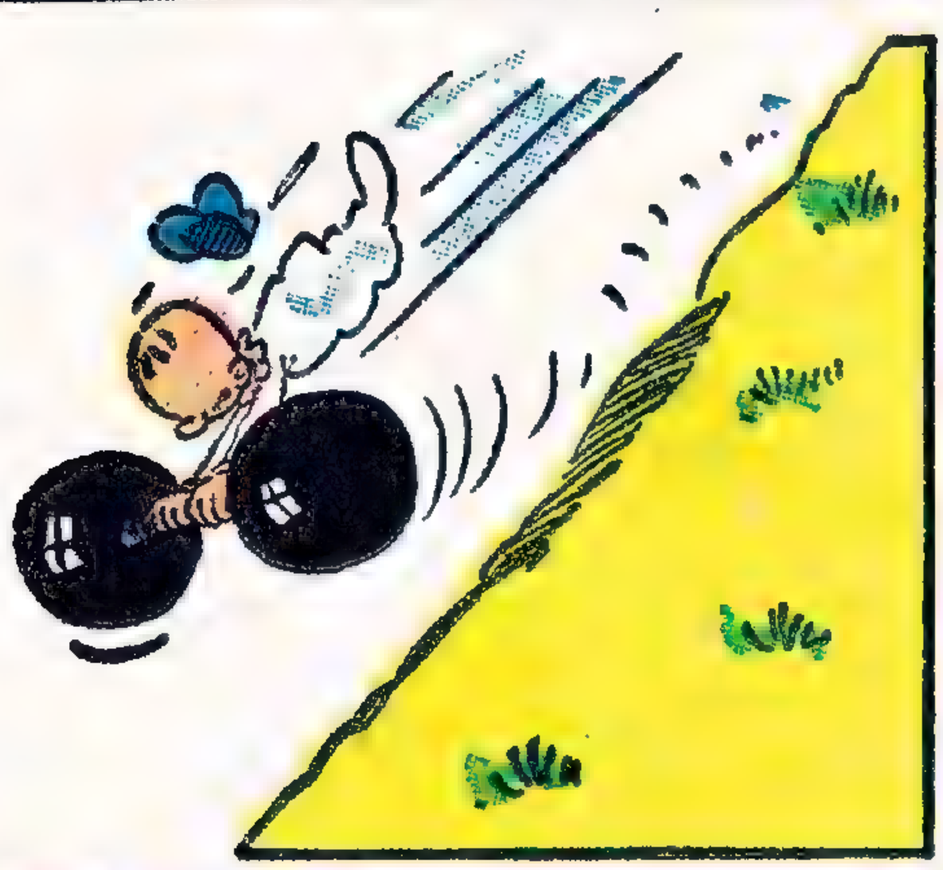
?

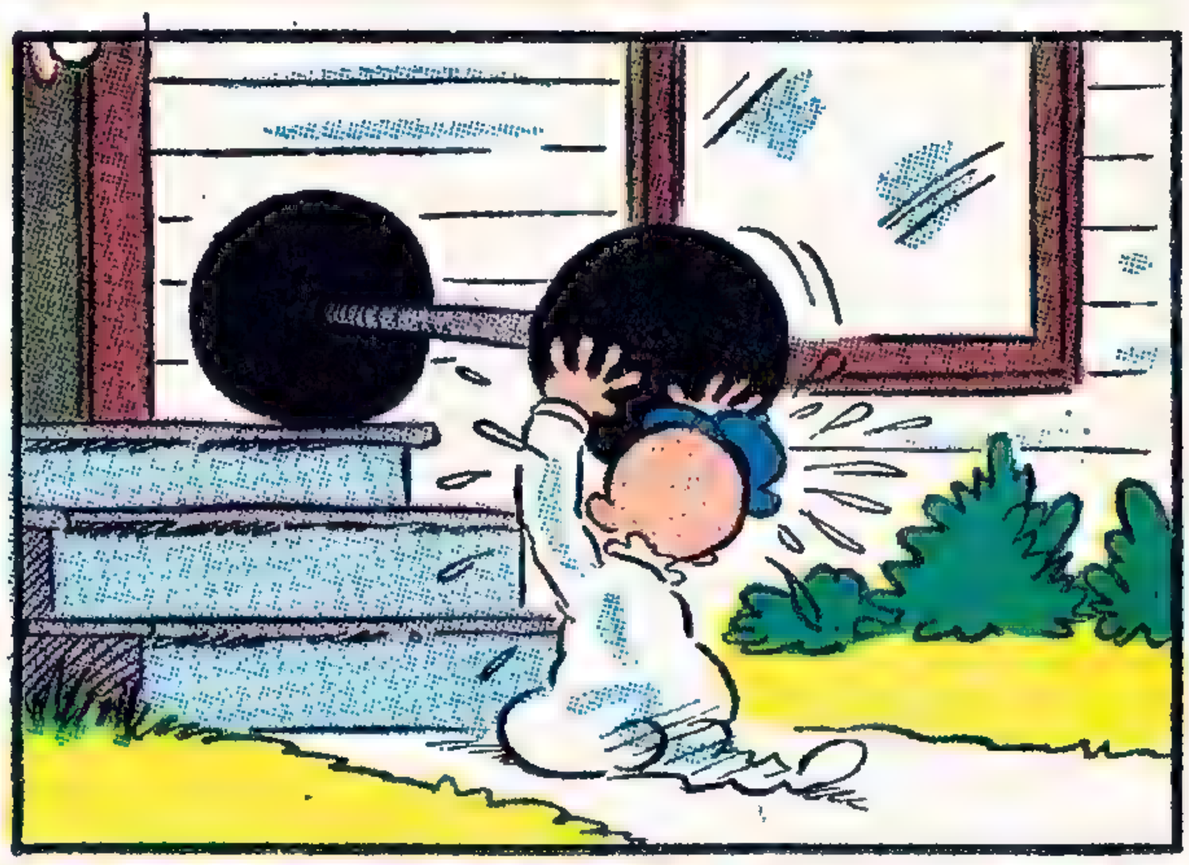
!

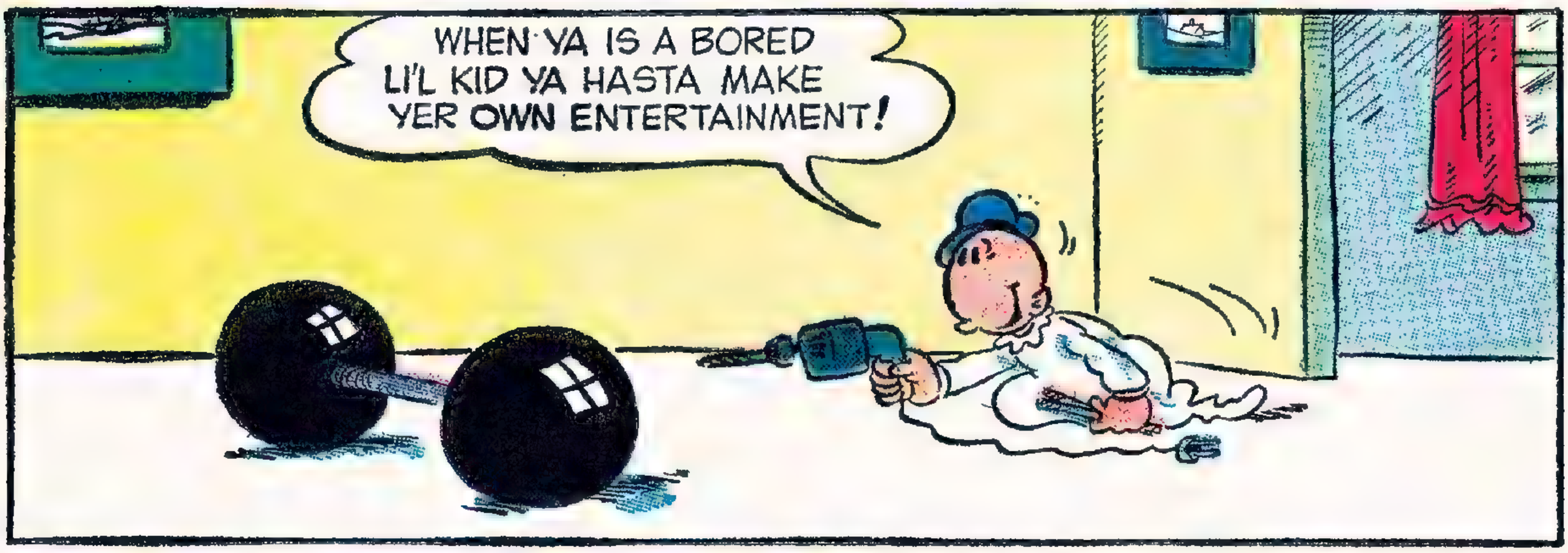
?

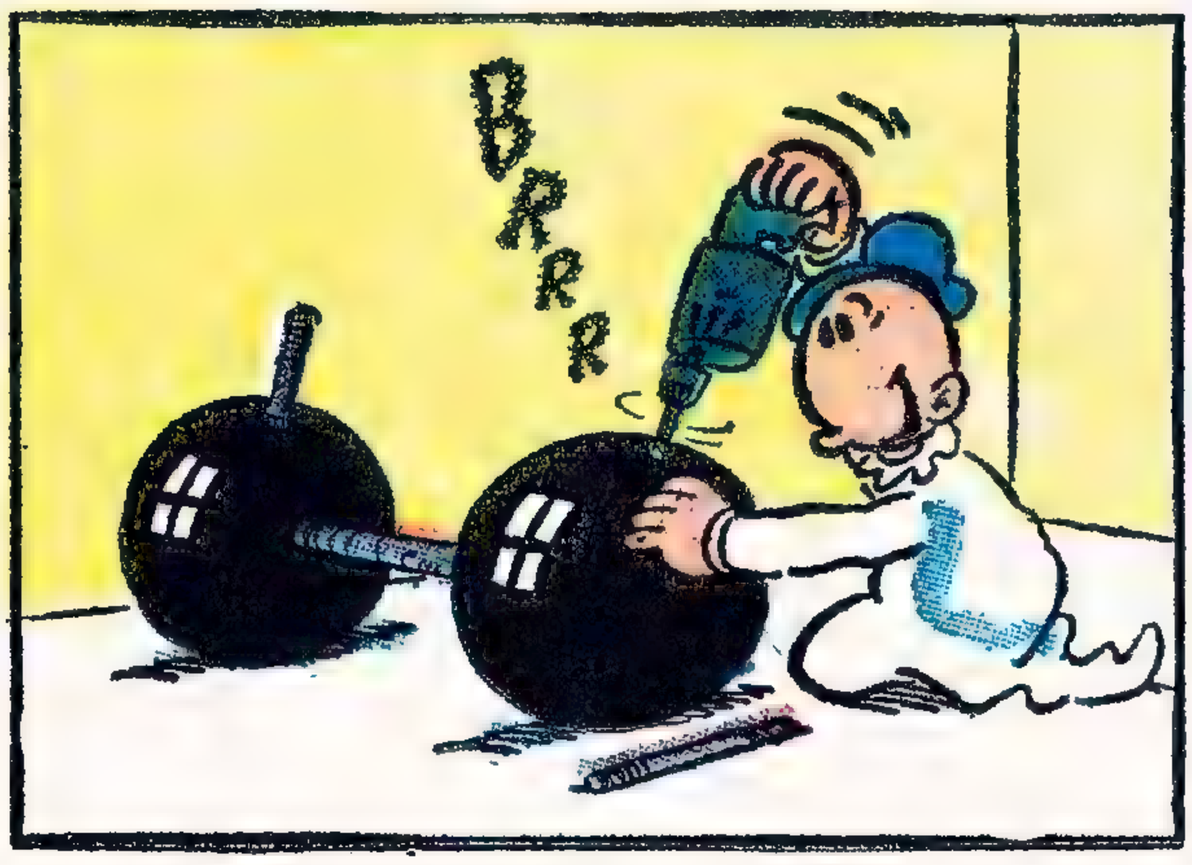
YOO-HOO, MISTER!!
YA DROPPED YER DUMB-BELL!


IF HE DOESN'T WANT IT I WILL TAKE IT HOME TO POPEYE!






WHEN YA IS A BORED LI'L KID YA HASTA MAKE YER OWN ENTERTAINMENT!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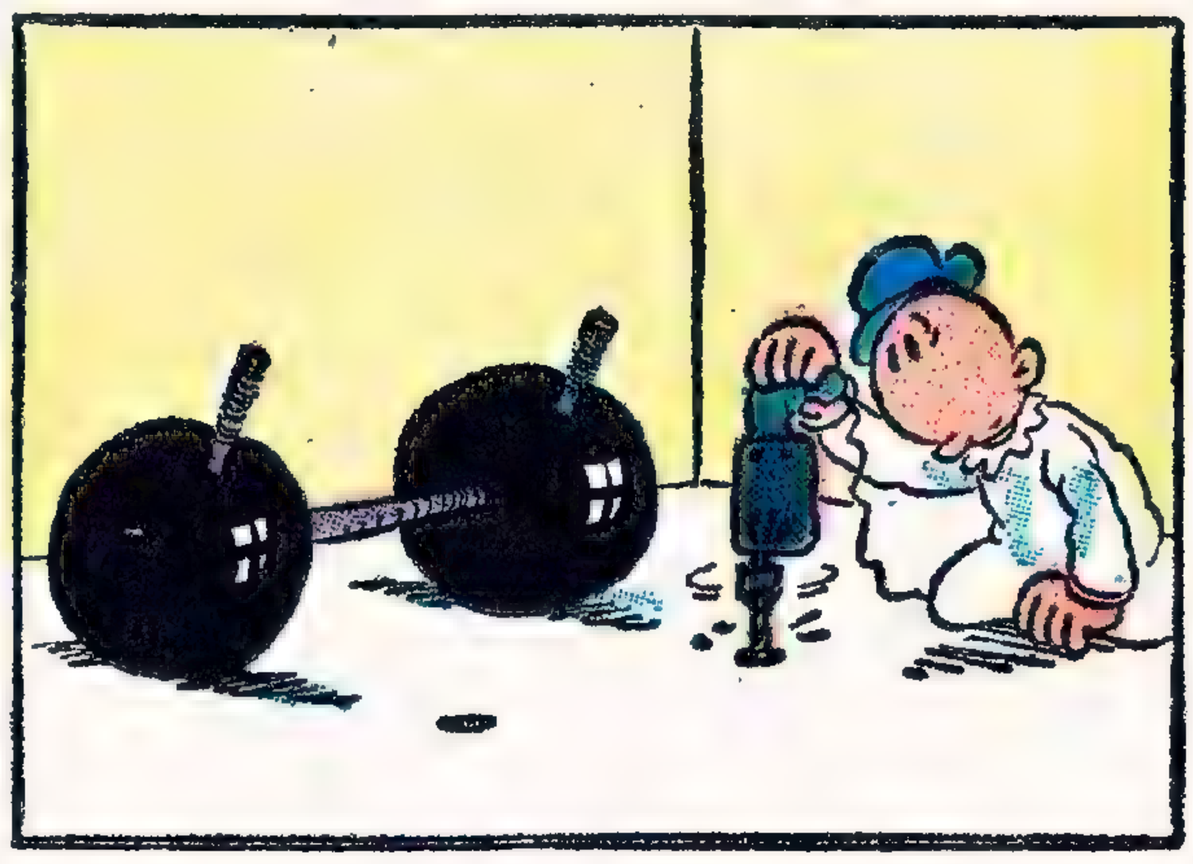


NOW I WILL GO DOWN IN'A BASEMENT AND BOLT IT DOWN!

IT WOULD TAKE DYNAMITE TO MOVE 'AT DUMBBELL NOW!

YOO-HOO! SWEE'PEA!!

YES, POPEYE!

WHERE'D THIS COME FROM?

I FOUND IT AND BROUGHT IT HOME FOR YOU!

IT MUST BE A FAKE ONE IF YOU COULD CARRY IT!

ERF! ERF!

WHA-? TH---?

UGH!!

?

?

ARE YA SURE **YOU** BROUGHT IT HOME?

YA DOESN'T THINK I'D LIE TO YA.. I YAM YER LI'L BOY KID!

THIS IS SILLY....IF YOU CAN CARRY IT THEY IS NO REASON WHY I CAN'T!

I WILL JUS' REACH DOWN AN' JERK IT UP!

ONE-TWO-THREE-JERK!

?

?

?

?

ERF!

ERF!

ERF

ERF!

?

?

?

YA COULDN'T LIFT IT!!

ERF!

WHEEEE!

ERF! ERF!

ERF!

ERF!

ERF!

THA'S THE FRONT DOOR?!

WHA-TH...?? HE WALKED OUT!

SLAM!

?

?

ME LI'L BOY KID LAUGHED AT ME!

I YAM AN OLD SAILOR WHAT AIN'T GOT NO MUSCLES LEFT IN HIS POOR WORN-OUT BODY!

I YAMA USED UP HAS-BEEN!

I ALWAYS KNOWED 'AT THE DAY WOULD COME WHEN ME MUSKLES WOULD BE WORN OUT BUT I DIDN' THINK IT WOULD BE SO QUICK!

GOOD HEAVENS!?! POPEYE LOOKS AS IF THE END OF THE WORLD HAD COME!!

I YAMA UNGOOD HUMING BEING!! I HAS LORST ME STRENGTH!

YOU MEAN YOU'VE LOST YOUR PUNCH?!

I YAMA BLASTID SISSY SWAB WIT'OUT NO ENERGYS ER FIGHT LEFT!

HOW INTERESTING!

?

DO YOU REMEMBER, OL' PAL...TEN YEARS AGO WHEN YOU REFUSED TO LOAN ME A DIME FOR A HAMBURGER?

?

BONK

YOU WERE A CAD, SIR!!

SMACK!

BLOW ME DOWN!?! I DOES NOT UN'ERSTAN' IT!! THAT WAS A PRETTY GOOD PUNCH!

?

?

SIR!! YOU LIED TO ME!

THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH YOUR STRENGTH....

THEY IS SUMPIN' STRANGE GOIN' ON!!

A FEW MINUTES AGO I COULDN'T LIFT A LI'L OL' DUMB-BELL!

YOU LIFTED ME QUITE WELL!

POPEYE'S COMIN' BACK WIT' WIMPY!

I'LL GO DOWN IN'A BASEMENT AN' TAKE THE BOLTS OUTA THE DUMBBELL!

THERE IT IS, WIMPY...IT AIN'T VERY BIG BUT I CAN'T LIFT IT!

HM?

?

?

'AT THING MUST WEIGH A THOUSING POUNDS!

IT WOULD TAKE A GIANT TO LIFT 'AT WEIGHT!

YIKE!

?

IT'S NOT VERY HEAVY!

?

?

ERF! ERF! WIMPY PUT IT RIGHT OVER THE HOLES SO I'LL BOLT IT DOWN AGAIN!

IF A LI'L BOY KID AN' A FAT SLOB LIKE YOU KIN LIFT IT, SO KIN POPEYE THE SAILOR!

UGH!

?

I'LL BE BACK!

NO FAT MAN AND LI'L BOY IS GOING TO SHOW ME UP!

SAM WEED'S FARM
WORLD'S LARGEST SPINACH FARM

HOW MANY ACRES OF SPINACH DOES YA HAVE HERE?
OH, ABOUT TEN THOUSAND ACRES!!

I WANTS TO BUY THE WHOLE WORKS!
WONDERFUL!! WHERE DO YOU WANT US TO DELIVER IT?

I DOESN'T WANT IT DELIVERED.... I'LL EAT IT RIGHT HERE!
?
?
?

CHOMP
CHOMP
CHOMP

'AT DOES IT!! TEN THOUSING ACRES! NOW I YAM READY FER THAT DUMBBELL!
CHOMP

BLOW ME DOWN! 'AT'S THE BES' MEAL I HAS EVER ET!!

HERE COMES POPEYE!!

GOOD HEAVENS!?! HE LOOKS LIKE A BALLOON!

UGH! WHA' THE??

I YAM SO FULL OF SPINACH THAT I KIN NOT GET THROUGH THE DOOR!

WHY DON'T YOU GIVE UP, OL' PAL?

I YAM GONER LIFT 'AT DUMBBELL!

YOU GO IN THE HOUSE... I HAS AN IDEA HOW I KIN LIFT 'AT THING FROM OUT HERE!

?

?

AHOY, WIMPY....GRAB THIS ROPE AN' TIE IT TO THE DUMBBELL!!

OKAY, POPEYE... THE ROPE IS TIED!

NOW I WILL PROVE THAT I YAM AS STRONG AS WIMPY AN' SWEE'PEA!

WATCH THROUGH THE WINDOW, WIMPY...I YAM GOING TO LIFT IT!

YANK!

CRUNCH

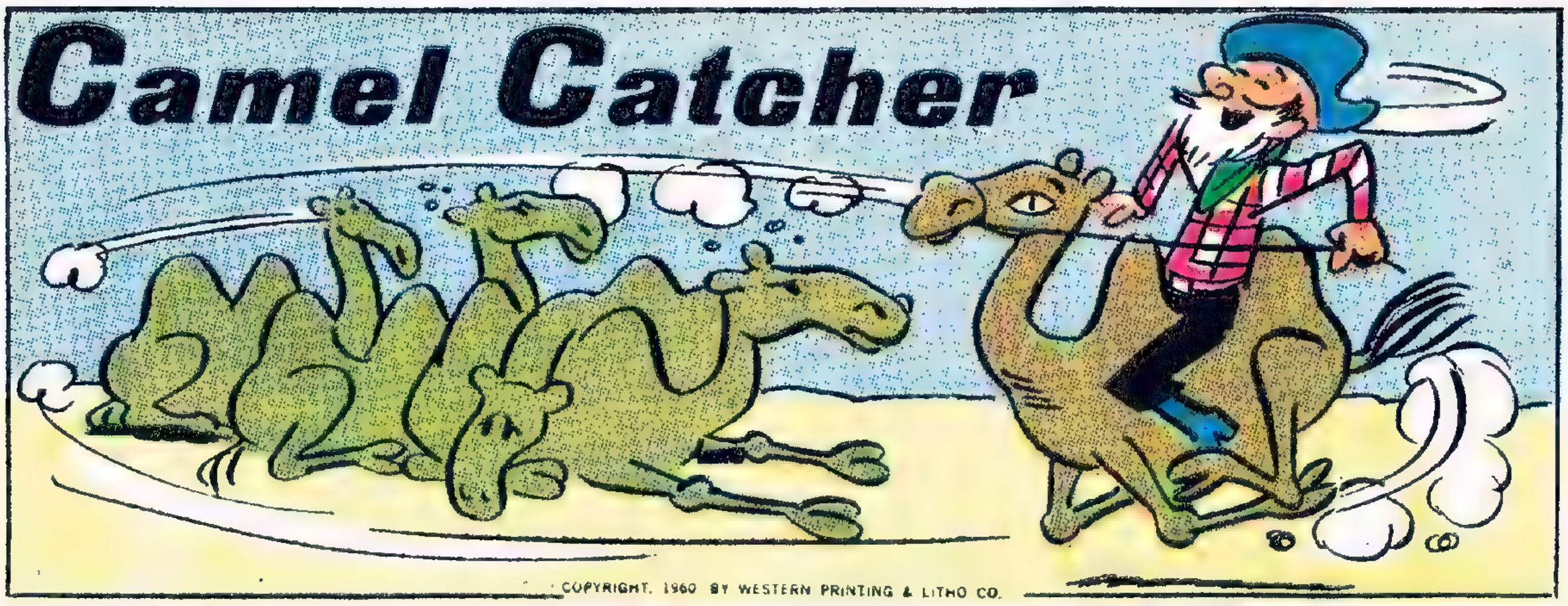
GOOD HEAVENS!! YOU'VE PULLED THE HOUSE INSIDE OUT!

?

?

THE END

Camel Catcher



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"Uncle Elmo, how do you catch a camel?"

"Is this a riddle, John?"

"No, I was just wondering. I know you used to ride for the King Ranch in Texas. And you've told me how you used to rope wild horses, and steers, and even buffalo. I thought you'd probably know how they catch camels."

Uncle Elmo's eyes twinkled. "I can tell you how *I* used to catch camels."

"*You* used to catch camels?"

"Sure, I was the head camel catcher for the Vizier of Uz in Arabia."

John Hardy laughed in delight. His Uncle Elmo, world traveler and explorer, was a famous teller of tall tales. "Go ahead, Uncle Elmo," John invited, "but if I catch you in a fib, I'm going to stop you."

"Fib?" Uncle Elmo said with mock dignity. "I don't know the meaning of the word. But you know what a dromedary is, don't you?"

"Sure. A dromedary is a special kind of camel that runs fast. They ride them across the desert."

"That's right. I used a dromedary for my cutting pony, John. I had the fastest dromedary on the Arabian desert."

"What was his name?"

"Eight Legs. Not because he had eight legs. I wouldn't try to fool you, John. I called him Eight Legs because he was twice as fast as any other dromedary in the Vizier's stable—and he had the fastest running dromedaries in the world."

"And yours was twice as fast?"

"Yes. Actually, at times he was three or five or ten times as fast. I'd circle a bunch of wild camels with him, and go around them so fast, they'd get dizzy and fall to the ground. I'd tie a lead-rope on them then and bring them back to the Vizier's stable. I caught nearly every wild camel in Arabia. There was only one trouble—"

"The Vizier's stable wasn't big enough?"

"Yes. So they put me scouting for the caravans. I'd ride ahead on Eight Legs and circle the fast-moving caravan on a look-out for desert bandits."

"You catch many?"

"Caught more bandits than I did camels. I filled the Vizier's jails with them. I'd ride down on a whole band, shooting those long rifles out of their hands. If there were any left standing when we got close, Eight Legs would spit in their eyes. He'd spit so hard he knocked them down sometimes—"

"Yes, I've heard that camels spit. What I don't understand is why didn't some of the bandit bullets knock you off your dromedary."

"Oh, I had bullet-proof vests made to fit around the dromedary's humps. I'd stay down there between the two humps protected fore and aft—"

"Uncle Elmo, you say you were riding between the two humps?"

"That's right, and the humps were protected by bullet-proof vests—"

"Uncle Elmo, you're fibbing!"

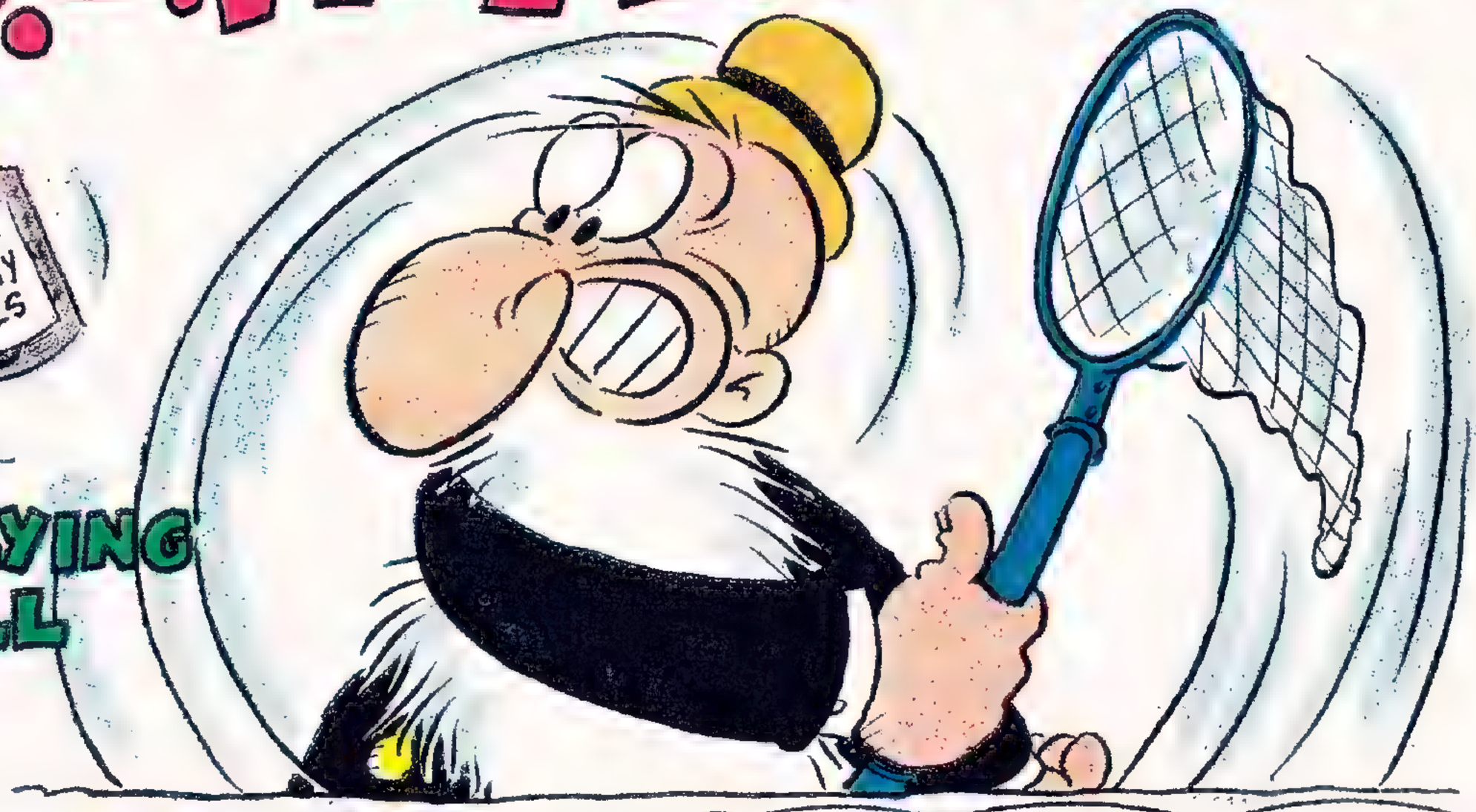
Uncle Elmo grinned at his favorite nephew. "Where did I slip up, John?"

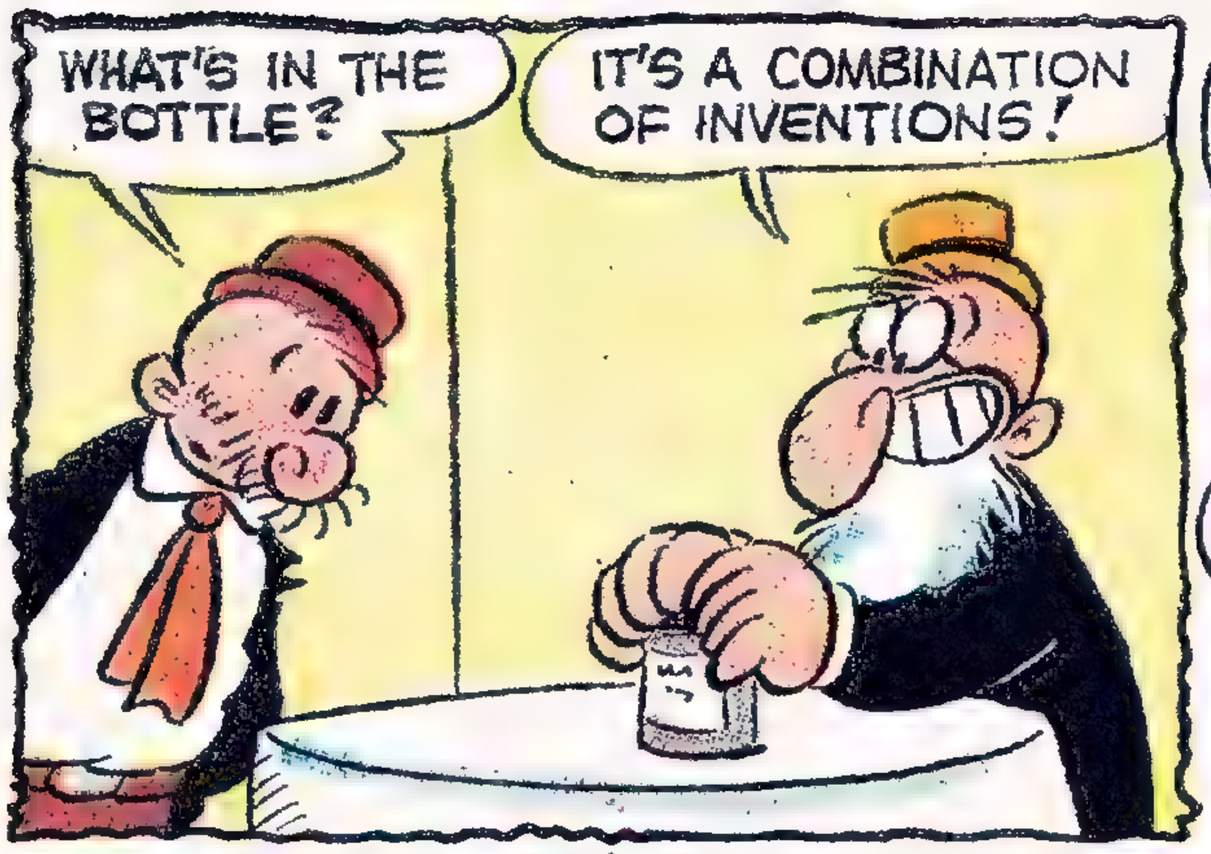
"A dromedary has only one hump."

"Well, dog my cats," Uncle Elmo said. "You're right, John."

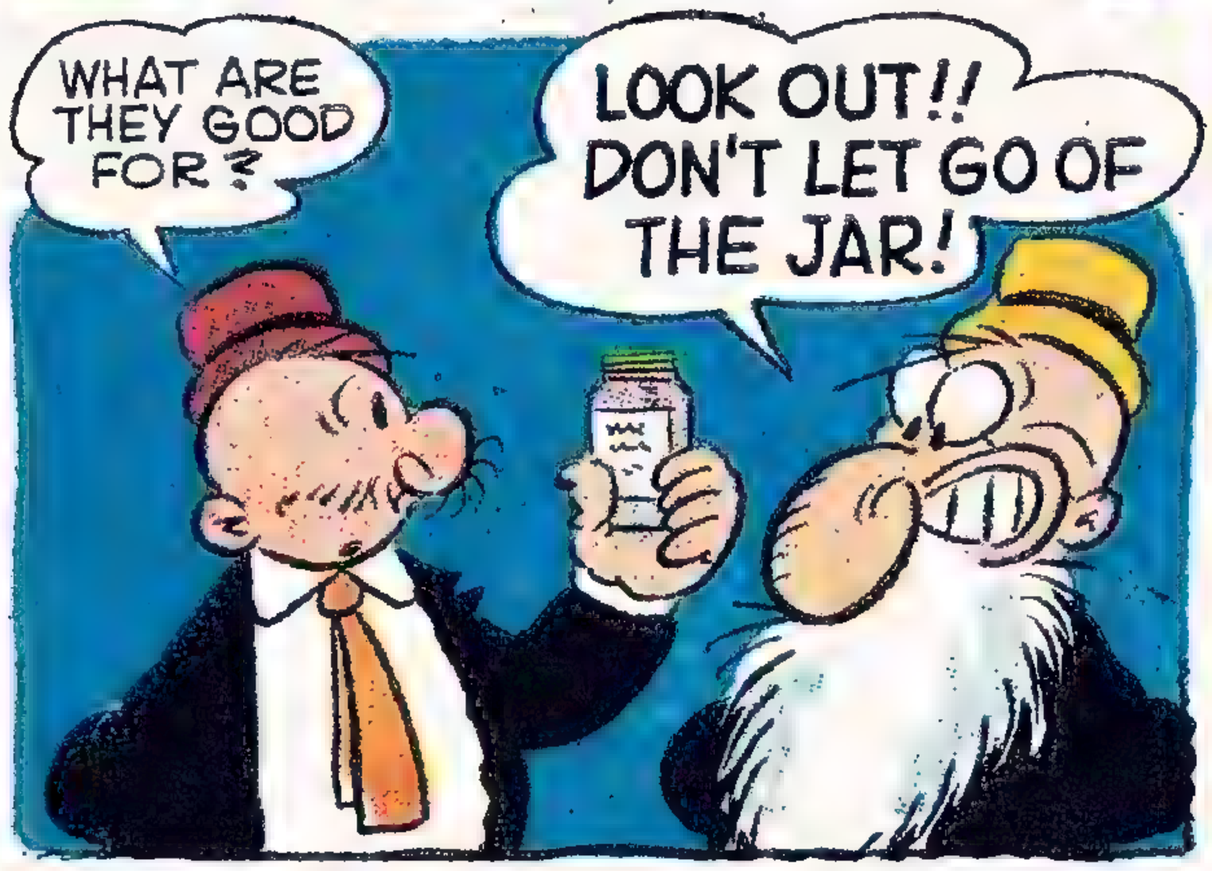
PROFESSOR O.G. WOTASNOZZLE!

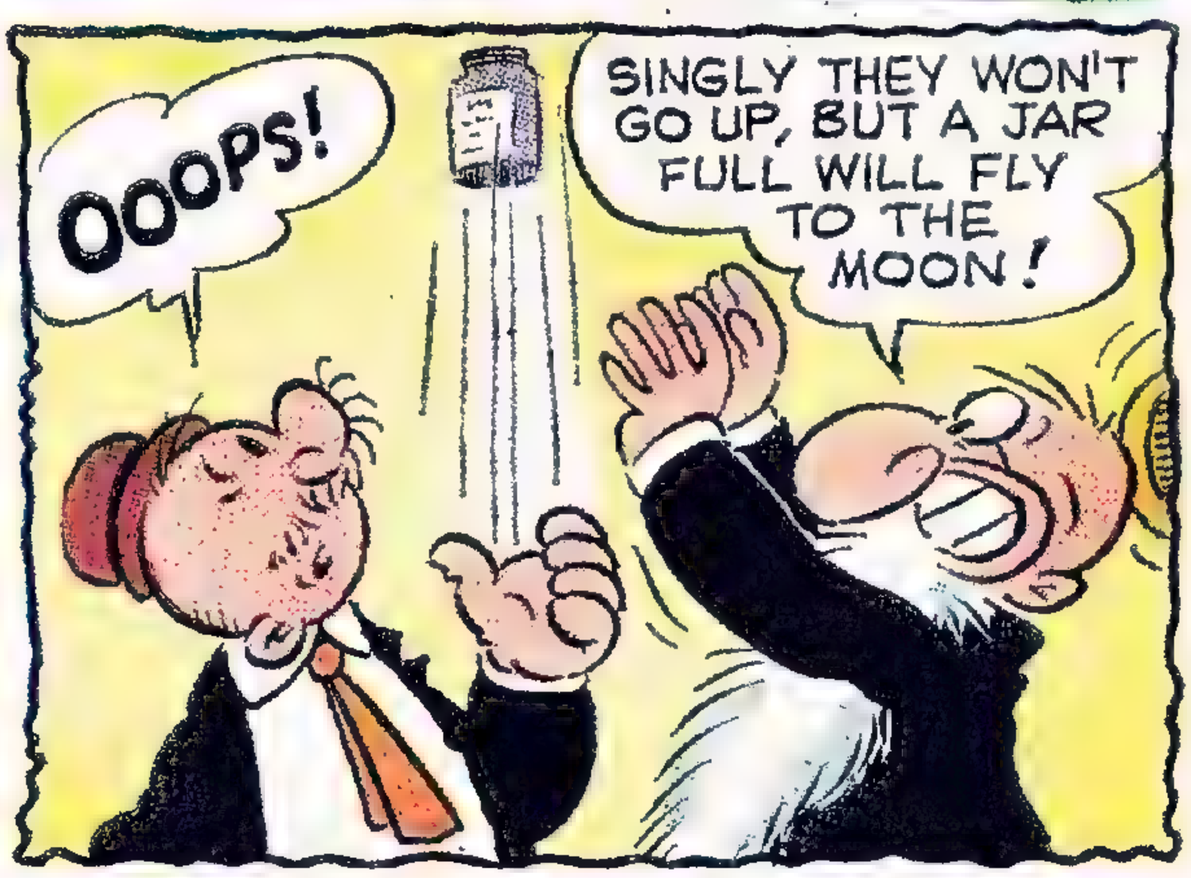
THE FLYING PILL





I'VE INVENTED ALL KINDS OF ANTI-GRAVITY POWDERS, LIQUIDS AND SOLIDS....I MIXED THEM ALL TOGETHER AND PUT THEM IN CAPSULES!
THEY'RE VERY POWERFUL!





BUTTER-FINGERS!

GR-R-R!

I'M SORRY... IT JUST SLIPPED!

LUCKY FOR YOU THESE WEREN'T ACTIVATED... IF THEY HAD BEEN THEY'D HAVE TAKEN THE ROOF OFF THE HOUSE!

WHAT ACTIVATES THEM?

MOISTURE! THE SLIGHTEST AMOUNT OF WATER INCREASES THEIR STRENGTH A MILLION TIMES!

NOW I DON'T KNOW HOW TO STORE THEM! I CAN'T SET THEM ON A SHELF!

?

I'LL SHOW YOU WHAT TO DO WITH THEM!

SEE!! NOTHING TO IT!

GEE! MY YARD AND GARDEN LOOK NICE THIS YEAR!

I'LL TAKE SOME COLOR PICTURES AND SEND THEM TO A GARDEN MAGAZINE!

BAH! THIS WON'T DO!

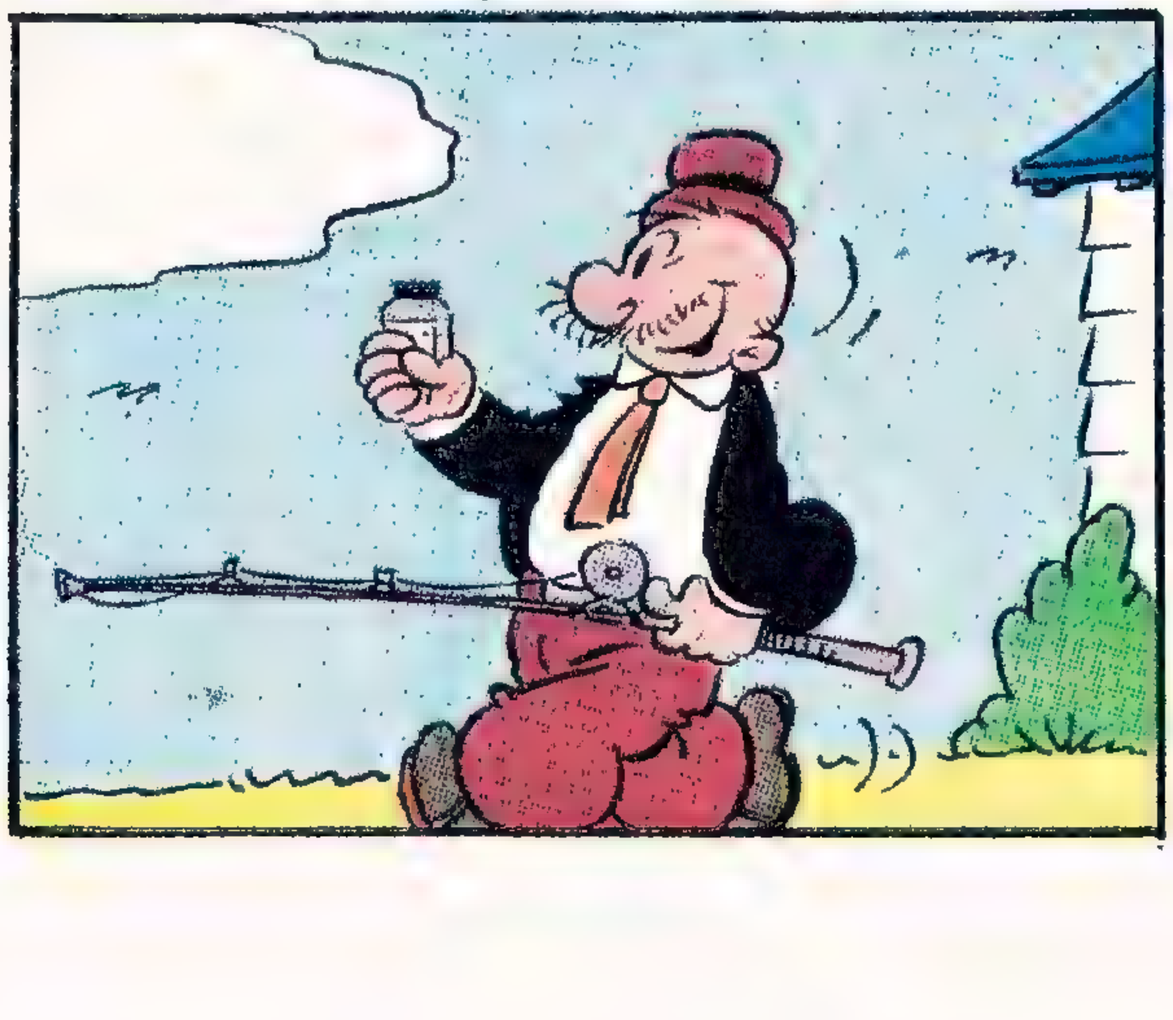
I CAN'T GET IT ALL IN FROM HERE EITHER!

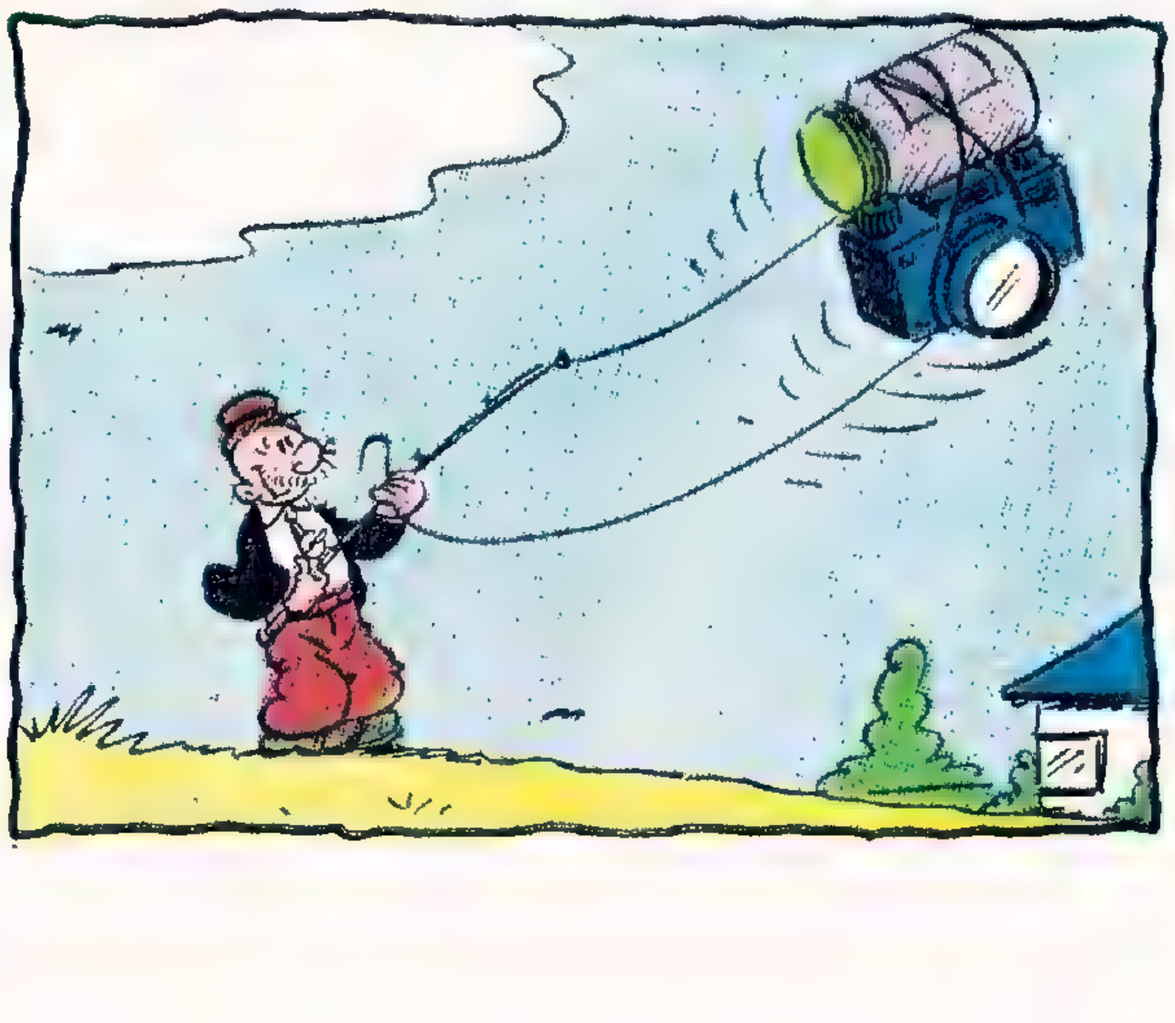
THERE MUST BE SOME WAY TO GET THIS CAMERA HIGHER!!

?

?

BOING





THE JAR OF ANTI-GRAVITY PILLS HAS CARRIED MY CAMERA HIGH ENOUGH ...NOW I'LL JERK THIS STRING AND TAKE MY PICTURE!

YIKE! THE JAR BROKE LOOSE!!

IT'S FLOATING AWAY!!

THE PROFESSOR SAID THE SINGLE CAPSULES WON'T FLY...SO I'LL HAVE TO BREAK THE JAR!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

DON'T ASK QUESTIONS... JUMP IN!!

THE DUCK SEASON ISN'T OPEN YET!

BANG!!

BANG

WHEEE! I HIT IT!!

IT WASN'T A DUCK! IT WAS YOUR JAR OF CAPSULES! I BROKE IT SO THE CAPSULES WOULDN'T FLY OFF!

YIKE!!

QUICK! WE'VE GOT TO PICK THEM ALL UP!!

THEY WERE RIGHT OVER THAT FARM WHEN YOU SHOT!

WE'RE TOO LATE!!

WHAT HAPPENED?!

?

?

?

MOO?

?

THEY ATE THE CAPSULES AND THE MOISTURE DID THE REST!

?

!

NO.

AND DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE OF

POPEYE!

He's Popeye the Sailor Man in a wild adventure with his evil robot twin created by the evil Sea Hag! PLUS! The cult fave, O.G. Wottasnozle, and more! Strong to the finish! *Arf! Arf!*

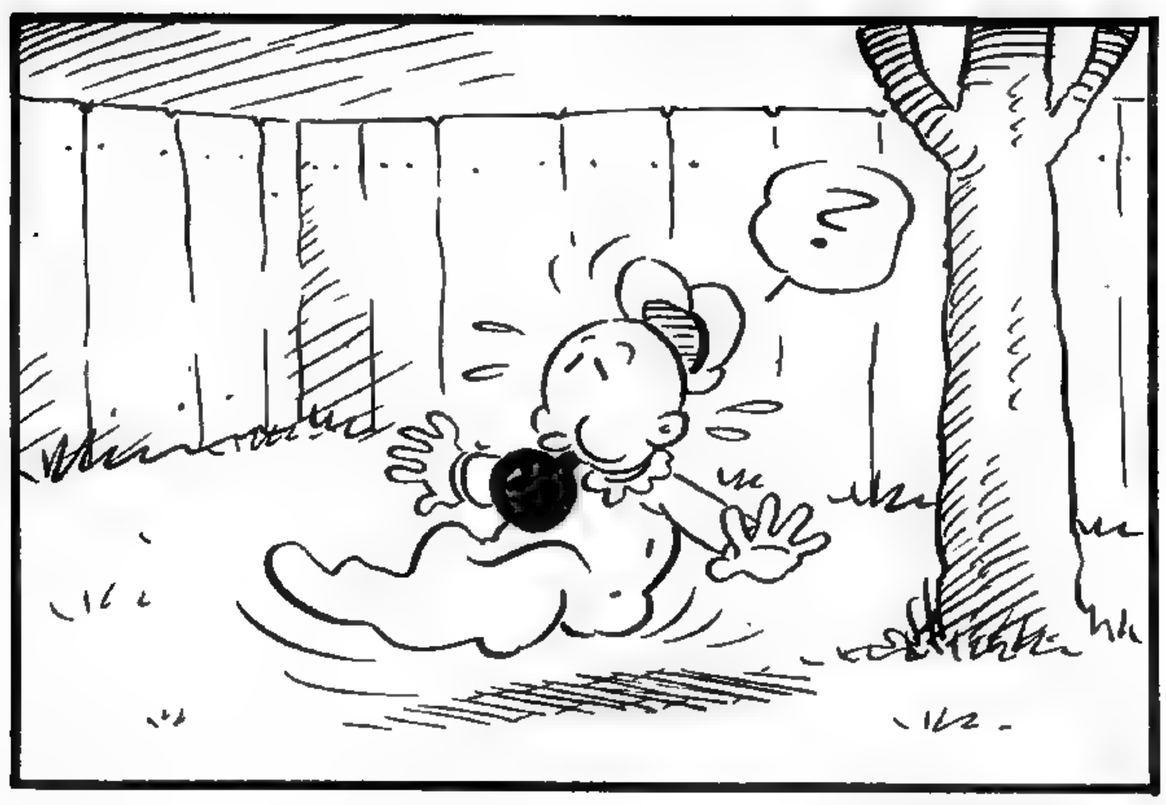
"FUNNY!" ***–MTV***

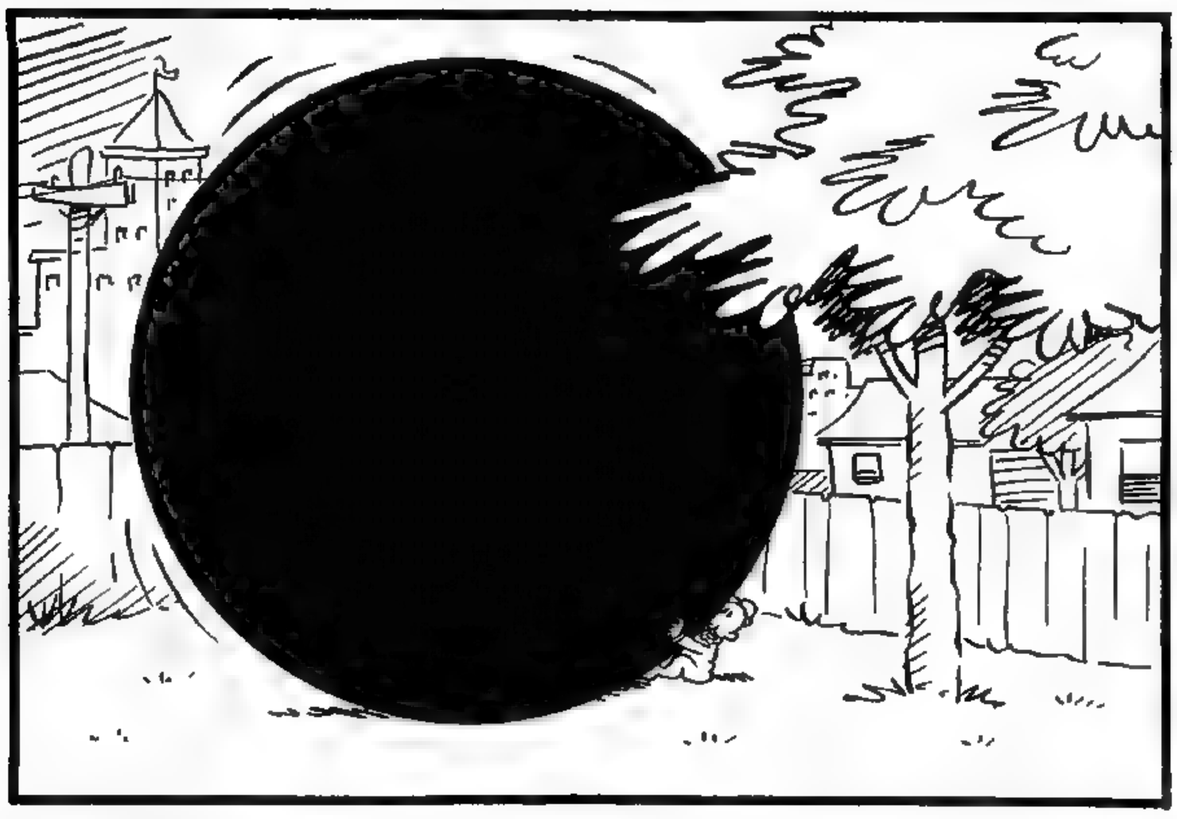
"CLASSIC!" ***–Cartoon Brew***

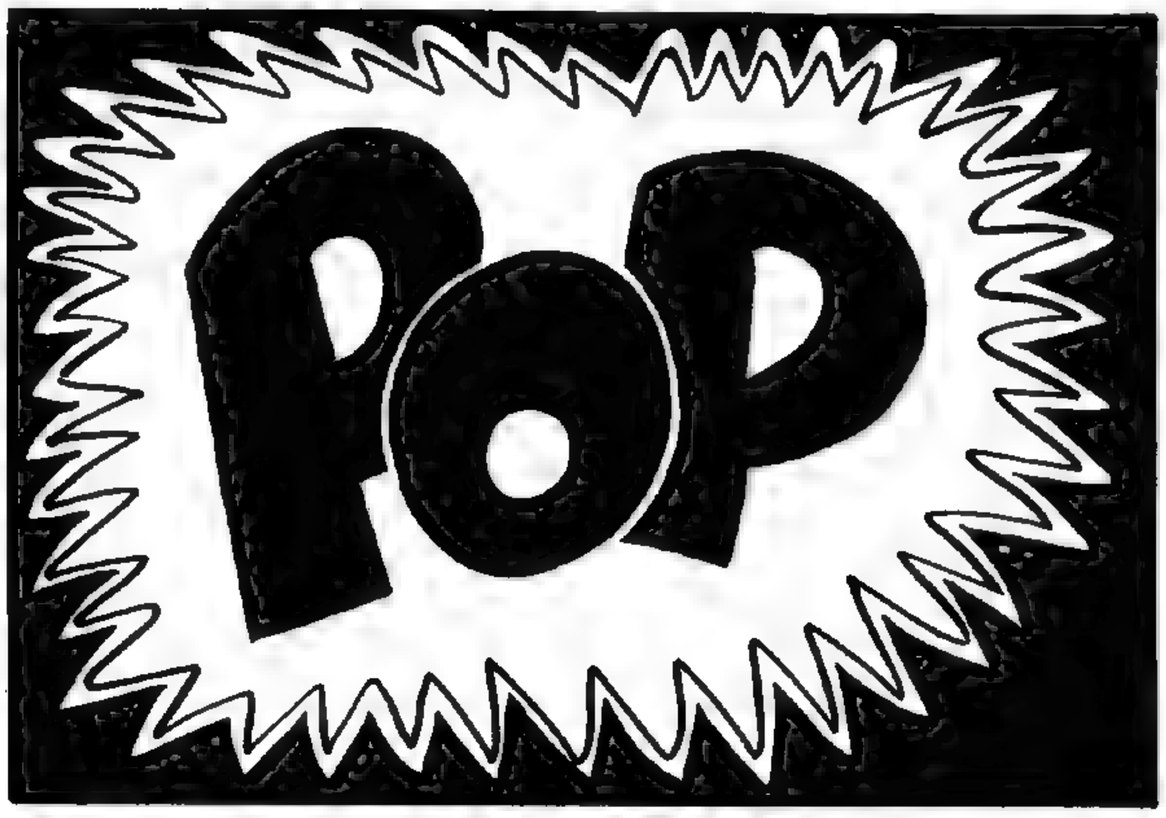
"BRILLIANT!" ***–Comic Mix***

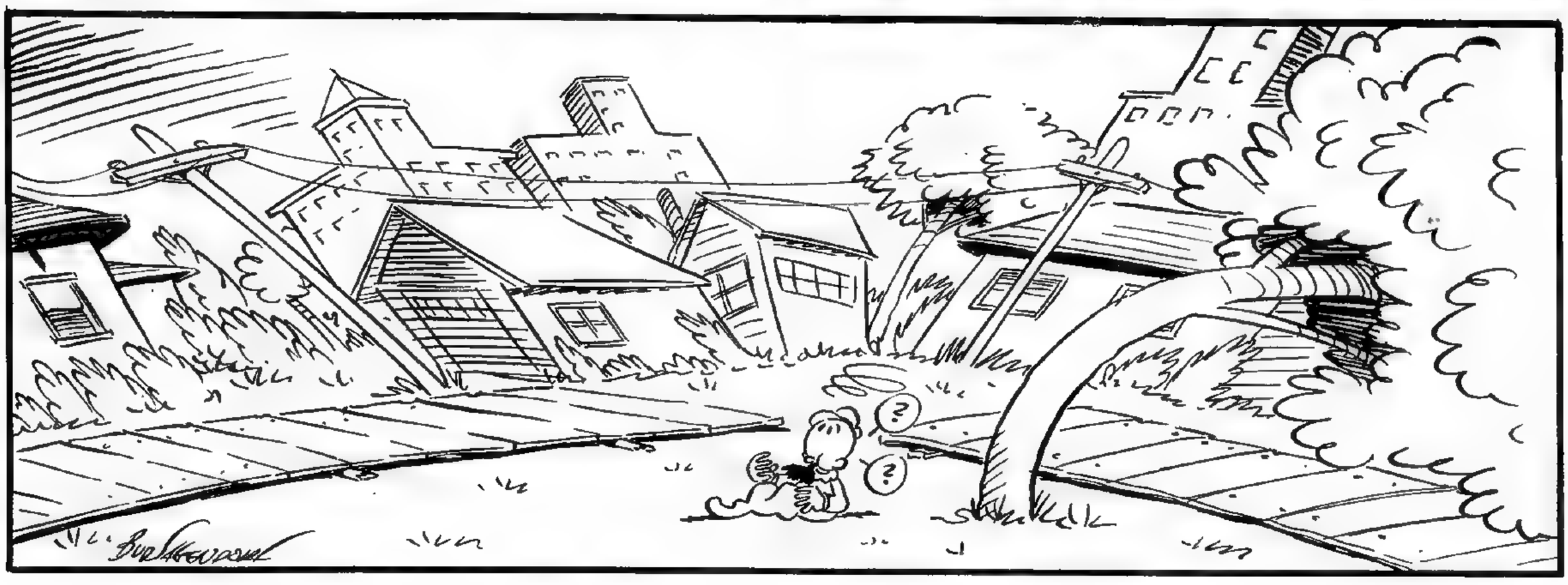
Popeye

The BIG BLOW









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HAUNTED HORROR™

#26

Mr. KARSWELL

HORRORS OF IT ALL SPECIAL!

BERNARD BAILEY

FREE DIGITAL ASHCAN

TAKE A PEEK AT ANOTHER AWESOME SERIES YOU MAY LIKE...

AVAILABLE NOW!!

SPRINGFIELD IS A SMALL TOWN -- EVERYBODY KNEW EVERYBODY ELSES BUSINESS... ESPECIALLY THE THREE BREWSTER SISTERS -- AND IF THEY DON'T KNOW IT, THEY MADE IT THEIR BUSINESS TO FIND OUT -- THAT'S WHY THEY WERE KNOWN AS THE...

The GOSSIPS!

MORTELLARO

THEY FOUND THE NOTE ON THE BRIDGE LATER THAT NIGHT. LORRAINE WYATT... SHERIFF LYONS WENT TO THE BREWSTER HOME TO SEE IF THE THREE SISTERS COULD THROW ANY LIGHT WHY SHE SHOULD COMMIT SUICIDE ... AFTER ALL ONCE SHE HAD WORKED FOR THEM!

HATE TO BOTHER YOU LADIES AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT, BUT IT'S ABOUT THAT WYATT GIRL -- SHE COMMITTED SUICIDE! MAYBE YOU CAN TELL US WHY!

MIGHT HAVE FIGURED SHE'D TAKE THE EASY WAY OUT!

AFRAID TO FACE PEOPLE -- HMMPPH!

SHE WAS JUST NO GOOD!

YES, SHE WAS A THIEF!

WE CAUGHT HER STEALING SOME OF OUR JEWELRY. THAT'S WHY WE FIRED HER!

Mister Mystery #13, September 1953. Art: Tony Mortellaro. Publisher: Stanley Morse.

BEFORE WE GO ANY FURTHER, MAYBE I'D BETTER INTRODUCE THE BREWSTER, ER, GIRLS!

THIS IS AGATHA! NOTICE THOSE EARS...THE BETTER TO HEAR YOU WITH, IS HER ANSWER!

THIS IS AMANDA! THOSE EYES! UGGHH...THE BETTER TO SEE YOU WITH, MY CHILDREN!

AND FINALLY WE HAVE ALBERTA! ALBERTA OF THE TWISTED, UGLY MOUTH...THE BETTER TO...WELL, YOU KNOW THE REST!

AND THERE YOU HAVE THE THREE BREWSTER SPINSTERS ...ALL AS UGLY AS SIN...IS IT ANY WONDER THAT THEY HATED LORRAINE WYATT? AFTER ALL, SHE WAS AS BEAUTIFUL AS THEY WERE GROTESQUE! BUT TO GET ON WITH OUR STORY, THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED WHEN THE BEAUTIFUL LORRAINE APPLIED FOR THE JOB OF HOUSEKEEPER AT THEIR, ER, MAUSOLEUM...

THEY HIRED HER EASILY ENOUGH... SHE CAME WELL-RECOMMENDED...

...AND I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME THIS POSITION! I'M SURE YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED!

WE'D BETTER NOT BE! AND DON'T THINK THAT THE WORK WILL BE EASY...

BECAUSE IT WON'T! AND YOU CAN START RIGHT IN BY DOING THE FLOORS IN THE KITCHEN!

LORRAINE MUST HAVE NEEDED THE MONEY REAL BAD...TO PUT UP WITH THOSE THREE CRONES SHE HAD TO BE PRETTY DESPERATE!

YOU CALL THIS FLOOR WAXED! WHY, YOU HAVEN'T EVEN TOUCHED IT!

BUT I'VE BEEN WORKING ON IT ALL MORNING! I'VE...

DON'T TALK BACK! IF YOU DON'T LIKE THE JOB, JUST SAY SO!

WAX

BUT SOMEHOW LORRAINE PUT UP WITH THE THREE WITCHES...UNTIL ONE DAY...

NOW DON'T DENY IT... YOU'VE BEEN STEALING!

YOU UNGRATEFUL WRETCH...AND SOME OF OUR BEST JEWELRY TOO!

BUT...BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND, I HAVEN'T STOLEN ANYTHING!

SHE'S LYING! I FOUND THESE IN HER ROOM!

IT'S SOME MISTAKE...I DIDN'T TAKE THEM! I *DIDN'T*!

GET OUT! IF THERE'S ANYTHING WE CAN'T STAND, IT'S A THIEF... AND A LIAR!

AND SO LORRAINE WAS FIRED! OF COURSE THE BREWSTER SISTERS COULDN'T REALLY PROVE THAT SHE HAD STOLEN THE JEWELRY, BUT IT WAS A SMALL TOWN AND WHO DO YOU THINK THE PEOPLE BELIEVED? LORRAINE? DON'T BE RIDICULOUS! WEREN'T THE BREWSTERS THE MOST RESPECTED FAMILY IN TOWN...WHY SHOULD THEY LIE!

OF COURSE LORRAINE TRIED TO GET OTHER WORK...BUT DON'T FORGET THIS WAS A SMALL TOWN...A VERY SMALL TOWN WITH A VERY SMALL MIND...

I'D LIKE TO HIRE YOU, MISS WYATT...BUT,... WELL, WE JUST DON'T HAVE ANY ROOM RIGHT NOW!

WHY DON'T YOU SAY WHAT YOU REALLY MEAN...IT'S BECAUSE YOU THINK I'M A THIEF!

THAT'S HOW IT WENT WHERE EVER LORRAINE TRIED...UNTIL ONE NIGHT SHE COULDN'T STAND IT ANY LONGER...JUST COULDN'T TAKE IT!

WHY DID THEY DO IT? I'VE GOT A HUNCH, BUT THAT'S ALL IT REALLY IS... JUST A HUNCH! DID YOU TAKE A REAL LOOK AT THE THREE BREWSTER DAMES...UGLY, AREN'T THEY? BUT LORRAINE.. AH, WHAT A DOLL...A DREAM! WELL, THAT'S MY THEORY...TAKE IT FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH..

AND THEN THERE WAS THE TIME DURING THE WAR AT THE RAILROAD STATION...

HOW DISGUSTING! I'D NEVER OF THOUGHT THAT OF ANNE HILL!

AND IN PUBLIC TOO!

THERE WAS A SMILE ON ANNE'S FACE AS SHE WALKED PAST THE THREE ZOMBIES ...BUT NOT ON THEIRS!

I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW HIM, BUT IT WAS WORTH A KISS TO SEND A SOLDIER OFF TO WAR HAPPY!

LOOK AT THE VALISE! AND SHE JUST GOT OFF THE TRAIN WITH THAT SOLDIER!

SHE'S BEEN AWAY FOR THE WHOLE WEEK-END! YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!

RR

AN INNOCENT KISS, THAT'S ALL IT WAS! BUT IT DIDN'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE TO THEM...IT NEVER DOES TO THE GOSSIPS!

A WEEK-END! BUZZ-BUZZ

BUZZ... TRYST! BUZZ...

BUZZ-BUZZ... BRAZEN HUSSY! BUZZ-BUZZ..

BUZZ...WITH A MAN! BUZZ-BUZZ ...

BUZZ-BUZZ— NO GOOD! BUZZ...

YOU KNOW SOLDIERS! BUZZ...

THAT'S ALL THE TOWN NEEDED... AT FIRST ANNE COULDN'T BELIEVE IT... THEN IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO IGNORE...

HI, KIDS, HOW ABOUT GOING..

LET'S CROSS THE STREET ...THIS NEIGHBORHOOD IS GETTING AWFULLY RUNDOWN!

ESPECIALLY THE PEOPLE ...REGULAR TRAMPS!

THERE WAS NOTHING SHE COULD DO ABOUT IT...IT WAS TOO BIG FOR HER!

AND THE BOARD, IN THE BEST INTERESTS, HAVE CANCELED THE MEMBERSHIP OF ANNE HILL!

OH NO... YOU CAN'T MEAN THAT... NO...

HOW DO YOU FIGHT SOMETHING LIKE THAT? YOU DON'T...YOU CAN'T!

BUT...IT...WASN'T... AT ALL ... LIKE ... THEY... SAY... I... DIDN'T... EVEN... KNOW... HIM... HE... WAS... JUST... A.. LONESOME... SOLDIER!

BUT WHAT ELSE COULD SHE DO? WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

AND A FEW DAYS LATER...

...YES, SHE COMMITTED SUICIDE!

GOOD! THAT'S ANOTHER ONE WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT!

GOOD RID-DANCE TO BAD RUBBISH!

CONVINCED YET? I THOUGHT SO... BUT WAIT, THAT'S NOT THE END OF MY STORY... THERE'S MORE YET! TAKE THE CASE OF HELEN GILLUS... THE WAITRESS! HELEN WASN'T AT ALL LIKE LORRAINE OR ANNE! SHE WAS SHY... QUIET... UNEDUCATED... BUT SHE HAD ONE THING IN COMMON... SHE WAS **BEAUTIFUL!**

BABY, YOU'RE A KNOCKOUT! GORGEOUS! WHAT DO YOU SAY... IS IT A DATE TONIGHT WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED WORK?

WELL, I DON'T KNOW... **ALL RIGHT, I'LL DO IT!** TO-NIGHT THEN!

LOOK AT HER... AND IN PUBLIC TOO...

1½A

713

HELEN DIDN'T SEE THE THREE BREWSTER SISTERS... HOW COULD SHE, SHE ONLY HAD EYES FOR ONE PERSON!

LOOK, SHE'S GOING WITH HIM!

AND A COMPLETE STRANGER TOO!

NO HE ISN'T... I'D KNOW THAT FACE ANYWHERE!

I REMEMBER SEEING IT IN A MAGAZINE... THAT MAN IS WANTED FOR MURDER!

YOU'RE RIGHT, I REMEMBER IT! BUT I THOUGHT HE WAS A BLOND! NEVER MIND THAT, IMAGINE, HER GOING AROUND WITH A KILLER!

THAT WAS ALL THEY NEEDED... NO EVIDENCE, NO WITNESSES, JUST THEIR OWN DIRTY, FILTHY MINDS... THE TOWN WOULD TAKE CARE OF THE REST... IT ALWAYS DID!

A DATE WITH A KILLER! BUZZ..

BUZZ... BUM!

SHE ISN'T SAFE! BUZZ-BUZZ..

BUZZ... A MURDERER! BUZZ-BUZZ..

PROBABLY HIS GIRL! BUZZ-BUZZ-

YES, THE TOWN WOULD TAKE CARE OF THE REST.. AS SOON AS WORD GOT AROUND IT WOULD START!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY HELEN... BUT UNLESS I FIRE YOU PEOPLE WON'T COME IN HERE ANY MORE, SO I GOTTA LET YOU GO!

I UNDERSTAND, MR. WILSON... I UNDERSTAND!

THAT SHE COULD UNDERSTAND, BUT WHAT HAPPENED NEXT WAS BEYOND EVEN HER COMPREHENSION!

AND DON'T COME BACK! IF YOU THINK I WANT A DAUGHTER WHO'S THE GIRLFRIEND OF A MURDERER, YOU'RE CRAZY!

SOB... SOB... OH HELEN, HOW COULD YOU! TO ME, YOUR OWN MOTHER!

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#26

BERNARD BAILY

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